

Indigenous

Ar: *Homeid*
 Km: *Tugla*
 Tr: *Abengul*

Bl: *Abengula*
 Nr: *Hangutate*

Hd: *Habedengul*
 Tg: *Abengul*

- Ecology: An African fruit tree occurring at medium to low altitudes from Eritrea south to Natal scattered in mixed deciduous woodland and wooded grassland. In Eritrea, it grows in the western lowlands and western midlands, e.g. around Barentu, Gonge, Tokombia, Mensura, the upper Barka river, Halhal, Ghizgiza and Habrenkeka, 500-1,900 m.
- Uses: Firewood, **timber** (general purpose), utensils (stools, grain mortars, beehives), carving, **food** (fruit), drink (fruit), bee forage, fodder (leaves, fruit), medicine (bark, roots, leaves), oil (seeds), dye (leaves).
- Description: A deciduous tree 10-18 m with a thick bole and large branches to a light, rounded crown. BARK: Grey **then black and thick** with irregular cracks and **raised scales; inner bark pink red**. LEAVES: Compound, crowded at tips of branches, **3-18 pairs leaflets plus a central leaflet, each stalked, oval to 10 cm, tip pointed**. FLOWERS: Male and female flowers on the same or different trees; pale green male flowers in spikes, hang down and attract insects; female flowers solitary, green-pink. FRUIT: Rounded and fleshy to 3.5 cm across, skin cream, **spotted**, peeling away from the sweet **flesh** which tastes a bit like mango; 2-3 large **seeds** inside, oily and edible.
- Propagation: Seedlings, cuttings, truncheons (large woody cuttings), root suckers.
- Seed: No. of seeds per kg: 400-450. Germination is about 40% after 6 weeks.
 treatment: Soak in cold water for 24 hours.
 storage: Can retain viability for up to 3 months at room temperature.
- Management: Coppicing. Young trees coppice easily.
- Remarks: Young trees are susceptible to fire damage. The fruit are rich in vitamin C and are well liked by children.

