

Indigenous

Common names: **Ateso:** Enyiti, enyitet **Luganda:** Namera **Lugbara:** Lokobe, lepi **Lugwe:** Siboroch **Lugwere:** Mukonowarogo **Luo A:** Opolok **Luo J:** Oporoloch **Luo L:** Lorokwoin **Lusoga:** Dembeza, ndebeza, kinyasila **Madi:** Lope **Runyoro:** Mulemangundu **Sebei:** Chepturtia.

Ecology: An attractive flowering tree distributed from Ethiopia to South Africa from low to high altitudes. In Uganda it is a small tree occurring at medium to low altitudes, frequently on rocky outcrops and hillsides. It also occurs in open woodlands and at margins of evergreen forests: well adapted to the conditions in Luwero, Masindi, Apac, Lira and Gulu Districts.

Uses: Firewood, charcoal, poles, tool handles, sticks, medicine (bark, fruit), ornamental.

Description: A deciduous tree, 5-13 m, the trunk waved or spiral, **rarely straight**, crown rounded. **BARK:** grey and **flaking in round patches to show paler under bark** (like a gum tree). **LEAVES:** compound, with 4 pairs leaflets plus one on a stalk to 7 cm, each leaflet oval-oblong, pointed to 8 cm, young leaves sometimes toothed and hairy. **FLOWERS:** fragrant in **large drooping heads on the bare tree, pink-lilac-dark pink**, the bell-shaped tube to 3 cm opening to 5-petal lobes, 4 cm across, lobes marked with red lines inside, **2 long, 2 short stamens** inside. **FRUIT:** **very long thin cylindrical capsules**, twisted, red-brown to 45 cm but only 1 cm across. They split to release many **winged seeds** 2-3 cm long and then remain many months on the tree.

Propagation: Seedlings, suckers.

Seed: Collect before the capsule splits open otherwise the seeds will be blown away.

treatment: seeds often germinate poorly.

storage store in an envelope.

Management: Coppicing, pollarding.

Remarks: The fruit capsules, chewed with salt, are used as a cough remedy. The wood is white-yellow and makes good tool handles and sticks. Best planted as individual trees.

