

Vangueria madagascariensis (V. venosa)

Rubiaceae

Indigenous

Bl: Sinara

Sh: Firanfaro

Tg: Harnkeren

Tr: Sangosango

Ecology: This species is commonly found in evergreen forest, riverine forest, wooded bushland and wooded grassland throughout Africa and into Asia and Australia. In Eritrea, it is found in the central and northern highlands and on the eastern and western escarpments, 700-1,900 m, e.g. around Ghinda, Elabered, Mensa, Semenawi-bahri and Quahain.

Uses: **Firewood**, local **construction** (wood used to support the thatched roof of the local house *agudo* and also material for support to the earthen roof of the local house known as *hudmo*), food (fruit), **support for grapes** and other horticultural crops.

Description: A shrub or small tree 2-10 m with many branches to a spreading crown. BARK: Smooth grey-dark grey, branches dull red. LEAVES: Simple, **opposite 8-28 cm long, 3-15 cm wide, shiny green above, slightly hairy below**, soft, tip pointed. FLOWERS: **Small green-yellow-cream**, cup-shaped, **5 petals**, smooth or with a few hairs at the throat, **sweet scented, in dense heads** beside leaves. FRUIT: Rounded, but 4-5 sections, **smooth and shiny, 2.5-5.0 cm in diameter, green, becoming yellow-brown when ripe**, containing 4-5 woody seeds. Fruit edible.

Propagation: Seedlings.

Seed:

treatment:

Storage

Management:

Remarks: In Tanzania an extract from the roots is used to treat worm infections.

