

Indigenous

Ar: Arrad

Bl: Sebkan

Nr: Sala

Km: Umesela

Sh: Anegto, Danigto

Tg: Chigono, Nefasha

Tr: Abertetet

Ecology: Widespread in Africa, in wooded grassland, thickets and Commiphora scrub. In Eritrea, it is common in the western escarpment and on the upper edge of Mereb valley, e.g. around Adi-nebri, Kenafena, Enda-mariam-aila, Mdri-wedi-sebera, Asmat, Elabered and in the upper Anseba valley, 900-1,900 m.

Uses: **Firewood**, charcoal, **timber, poles**, farm tools, medicine (bark, leaves, roots), fodder (leaves), ornamental, mulch, nitrogen fixation, soil conservation, resin.

Description: A deciduous tree to 15 m, often smaller, with spreading crown, fairly dense canopy, trunk often crooked, usually single stemmed. **BARK:** Dark brown, cracked. **LEAVES:** A **bright pale green** compound leaf with numerous small leaflets with a **feathery** appearance. **Branchlets and leaves have distinctive soft, golden hairs.** **FLOWERS:** Numerous, small **cream-pink heads**, half spherical, about 2.5 cm across. **FRUIT:** **Large pods, 20 cm long, 3 cm wide**, thin, bulging over a few seeds; **purple when young, later brown and papery.**

Propagation: Seedlings, direct sowing.

Seed: No. of seeds per kg: 10,000-13,000.

treatment: Immerse in hot water, allow to cool and soak for 12 hours,

storage: seeds can be stored for a long period if kept dry and insect free.

Management: Coppicing, lopping, pollarding.

Remarks: Can be planted in urban areas as an ornamental and avenue tree. Bark and roots contain saponin so can be used as a soap for washing clothes. The wood, although hard, rots easily.

