

Eucalyptus tereticornis

Myrtaceae

Australia

Common names: **Eng:** forest river gum, horn-cap eucalyptus; **Swah:** mkaratusi.

Ecology: In its natural range it prefers alluvial flats and lower slopes of mountains in the coastal regions of southern and eastern Australia. In Tanzania it grows in many places **but** has been recommended for coastal and semi-arid areas where **it** prefers well-drained soils.

Uses: Firewood, timber (building, boxes), poles, posts, bee forage, windbreak.

Description: An evergreen tree up to 30 m with narrow crown **and** hanging branchlets. **BARK:** grey or white, smooth **when** young and cracking with age. **LEAVES:** narrow, alternate, shiny green above and paler green beneath, hanging, curved. **FLOWERS:** cream-white, sweet scented, **distinctive bud caps, long and conical**, 12-17 mm. **FRUIT: capsule 5-8 mm**, opening in 4 valves when mature, **half round** or **egg** shaped, a ring around the top.

Propagation: Seedlings.

Seed info.: No. of seeds per kg: 300,000-500,000 (uncleaned); Germination is very good and uniform, 30-70%; completed in 14-30 days.

treatment: No treatment required.

storage: Can keep viability up to one year at room temperature.

Management: A fairly fast-growing tree; coppicing. Rotation for fuel is 8-10 years. Can be coppiced after 5 years.

Remarks: Suitable for, growing in woodlots. A drought-resistant **tree** but susceptible to termite attack. It tolerates occasional flooding and slightly saline soils. The red heartwood **is** hard, strong and durable.

