

Thevetia peruviana

Apocynaceae

West Indies and Central America

Common names: **English:** Lucky nut, yellow oleander.

Ecology: A bush or small tree, it is widely planted in the tropics as an attractive hedge or ornamental bush. It tolerates most soils but prefers sandy ones. Commonly used as a hedge in many areas of Uganda.

Uses: Building poles, tool handles, shade, ornamental, soil conservation, live fence.

Description: A multi-stemmed shrub or shady tree to 4 m. **LEAVES:** shiny, **narrow, in spirals** around the stem, about 10 cm long. **FLOWERS:** **yellow, white or salmon, in narrow trumpets, petals twisted in bud**, to 6 cm long, the green base extending to the trumpet edge. **FRUIT:** fleshy, 4-angled to rounded, about 3 cm across, stalked with a flat triangular nut inside.

Propagation Seedlings, cuttings.

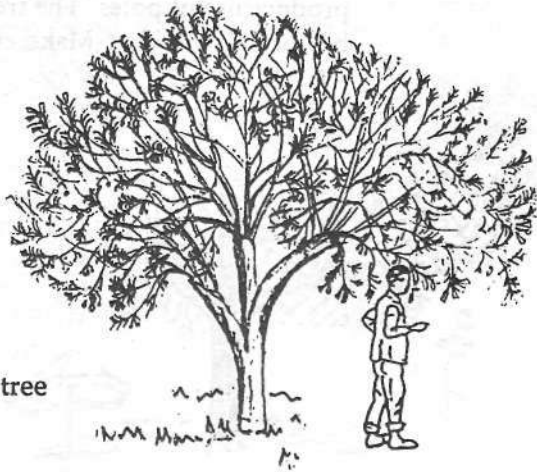
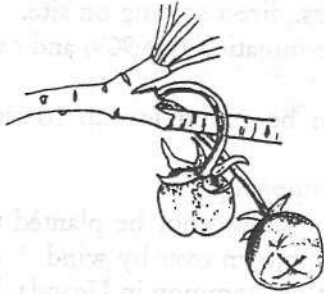
Seed: No. of seeds per kg: about 300. Good germination rate of about 80%.

treatment: not necessary.

storage: seeds can be stored for up to 3 months.

Management: Fast growing; prune about a month before the rains to induce flowering.

Remarks: Every part of the plant is extremely poisonous and it is not touched as fodder even by goats. Take care with children.



pollarded ornamental tree