

## ***Maranthes glabra***

**Scientific name:** *Maranthes glabra* (Oliv.) Prance.

**Family:** Chrysobalanaceae.

**Distribution and conservation status:** Found in evergreen and semi-deciduous forests typically on dry land but occasionally in seasonally flooded areas. Least Concern due to wide distribution and stable populations.

**Common names:** Africa almond (English), Abo-Idofin (Yoruba).

**Fruit/seeds:** A drupe, ellipsoid to ovoid, with a hard wood endocarp.

**Fruiting time:** October-February.

**Seed extraction method:** Remove pulp by soaking in water and rubbing off the flesh, crack the hard endocarp carefully to extract the seed to improve germination.

**Types of seed:** Recalcitrant with epigeal germination.

**Sowing method:** Sow directly.

**Sowing medium:** Mix forest topsoil and river sand.

**Germination Period:** 3-8 weeks

**Germination percentage:** 50% for fresh seeds ( $(5/10 \times 100)$ )

**Planting:** Onset of the rainy season

**Growth and development:** Slow to moderately fast-growing species with wide-spreading crown. Tolerant of partial shade in early stages, but later requires full sunlight. Can reach 25– 40 m in height.

**Notes:** Seed viability is short, so prompt sowing after collection is essential.