

**Scientific name:** *Irvingia gabonensis* (Aubry-Lecomte ex O'Rorke) Baill.

**Family:** Irvingiaceae.

**Distribution/conservation status:** widely distributed and relatively common in moist lowland rainforest, also occurring in semi-deciduous forest, especially in association with human habitation. Near-threatened (NT) due to forest clearance and degradation, and poor natural regeneration.

**Common names:** Bush mango, dika nut (English), Ogbono (Igbo), Oro, Oyin (Yoruba), Ogwe, Ohere (Edo)

**Fruits/seeds:** ovoid, green and sweet-smelling when ripe, with orange juicy pulp containing one seed.

**Fruiting time:** July – August.

**Seed collection:** collect fruits from under the parent tree and bury in sawdust for 5 – 7 days. This softens the fruits, making it easier to separate seeds from pulp.

**Type of seed:** recalcitrant.

**Sowing method:** sow seeds individually in pots at a depth of 3 – 4cm.

**Sowing medium:** cured sawdust or topsoil from under the parent tree.

**Germination period:** 14 days.

**Germination percentage:** 65 – 70%.

**Growth/development:** seedlings require complete shade for optimum growth and can be planted out 8 weeks after germination. Trees begin to fruit when c. 4 years old.

**Notes:** protect seeds and seedlings from rodents.