

Scientific name: *Mansonia altissima* (A. Chev) A. Chev.

Family: Malvaceae.

Distribution/conservation status: occurs in semi-deciduous forest, including disturbed forest and transition between semi-deciduous and evergreen forests. Endangered (EN) through unsustainable logging.

Common names: African black walnut (English), Ofun, Afon (Yoruba)

Fruits/seeds: brown egg-shaped nut with a large papery wing and a single black seed.

Fruiting time: October – January.

Seed collection: fruits can be found under or at a distance from parent tree as they are dispersed by wind. Remove the wing and gently crack open the nut to extract seed.

Type of seed: recalcitrant.

Sowing method: sow at a depth of 1cm, taking care not to damage the seed. Protect from rodents.

Sowing medium: equal parts forest soil and cured sawdust.

Germination period: 10 - 15 days.

Germination percentage: 65%.

Growth/establishment: seedlings require partial shade for optimal growth during the first 2 years after germination and full sunlight thereafter. They reach about 60 cm within two months of germination and can then be planted out.

Notes: Larvae of the grasshopper *Zonocerus variegatus* may seriously damage the foliage. Defoliation may also be caused by caterpillars of the moth *Godasa sidae*.