

**Scientific name:** *Markhamia tomentosa* (Benth.) K.Schum. ex Engl.

**Family:** Bignoniaceae.

**Distribution/conservation status:** widely distributed in savanna and drier riverine forests. Not assessed by the IUCN Red List.

**Common names:** Siala (English), Abakansi, Ogirisi (Igbo), Akoko, Oruru (Yoruba), Okwekwe (Edo).

**Fruits/seeds:** long narrow flat capsule, often twisted and opening on the tree when ripe, containing many rectangular, pale, flat, winged seeds.

**Fruiting time:** December – January.

**Seed collection:** observe fruits closely and collect when fully developed but before opening as seeds are wind-dispersed at some distance from the parent tree. Place pods on paper in a dry place until they split open and release seeds.

**Type of seed:** recalcitrant.

**Sowing method:** sow seeds flat in pots or trays at a depth of 2cm.

**Sowing medium:** forest soil.

**Germination period:** 6 days.

**Germination percentage:** 66%.

**Growth/development:** seedlings require full shade; they are ready to be planted out 10 weeks after germination. Saplings require full sunlight.

**Notes:** Handle seeds carefully, ensuring that wings do not break and damage the seed. Sow promptly as viability reduces with storage.