

Scientific name: *Monodora tenuifolia* Benth.

Family: Annonaceae.

Distribution/conservation status: widespread in evergreen and semi-deciduous, and forest margins as far north as Niger and Kaduna. Not assessed by the IUCN Red List.

Common names: African nutmeg (English), Ehuru ofia (Igbo), Lakosin, Ehinawosin (Yoruba), Uyenghen (Edo).

Fruit/seeds: large, smooth, globose, green with pale spots, turning orange-yellow when ripe, containing numerous brown, pea-sized, aromatic seeds in fibrous, sticky pulp.

Fruiting time: May – August.

Seed collection: collect ripe fruits from the tree; cut open with a knife to remove seeds, washing in water to remove pulp.

Type of seed: orthodox.

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

Sowing medium: topsoil.

Germination period: 21 – 30 days.

Germination percentage: 57%.

Growth/development: seedlings require shade and growth is quite slow; they can be planted out 12 weeks after germination and tolerate full sun if acclimatised to higher light levels.

Notes: small deciduous tree adapts well to cultivation as an ornamental.