**Scientific Name:** *Pterocarpus erinaceus* Poir.

**Family:** Leguminosae.

**Distribution/conservation status:** widely distributed in semi-arid and sub-humid savanna. Populations in Nigeria and other parts of West Africa have declined rapidly due to the high value of timber for export. IUCN Red List assessment is in progress.

**Common Names:** African rosewood, Senegal rosewood (English), Aze egu (Igbo) Osun-dudu, Apepe (Yoruba), Ukpeka (Edo).

**Fruits/seeds:** circular, flattened pod with a papery, finely veined wing and prickles on the seed-bearing portion which contains 1 – 2 dark red-brown, kidney-shaped seeds.

**Fruiting time:** January – March.

**Seed collection:** fruits are wind-dispersed but most do not travel far and can be collected under and around the parent tree. Remove wing to extract the seed/s.

**Type of seed:** recalcitrant.

**Sowing method:** soak seeds in water for 12 – 24 hours, remove and drain. Following safety precautions to protect face and hands, immerse in sulphuric acid and stir for 20 minutes before sowing flat at a depth of 1.5cm.

**Sowing medium:** cured sawdust.

**Germination period:** 6-10 days.

**Germination percentage:** 75%.

**Growth/development:** requires partial sunlight for optimal growth. Growth is slow and it may take 12 months before seedlings are large enough for planting out.

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