

Scientific name: *Synsepalum dulcificum* (Schumach. & Thonn.) Daniell

Family: Sapotaceae.

Distribution/conservation status: small understory tree or shrub found mostly in damp areas, such as along watercourses. Not assessed by the IUCN Red List.

Common names: Miracle fruit/berry (English), Agbayun (Yoruba), Azimomo (Edo).

Fruits/seeds: small, bright red, ellipsoid berry containing one seed in fleshy pulp which is edible and has the unusual effect of making sour and bitter foods taste sweet.

Fruiting time: May – June.

Seed collection: collect ripe fruits from the tree and squeeze in water to remove and clean the seed.

Type of seed: recalcitrant.

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

Sowing medium: forest soil.

Germination period: 7 – 10 days.

Germination percentage: 75 – 80%.

Vegetative propagation: Marcotting/air-layering.

Growth/development: seedlings are small and quite slow-growing; they prefer partial shade and can be planted out 12 weeks after germination.

Notes: young plants from seed take many years to flower and fruit while marcotts flower and fruit in the first year.