PLANT FACT SHEET

Adansonia grandidieri Baill.

GENUS *Adansonia* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Giant boabab

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Seeds, Fruit, Vegetable

The young leaves and fruit are eaten.
The fruit pulp and seeds are eaten fresh.
A cooking oil is extracted from the seeds.

DESCRIPTION

A large deciduous tree. It grows 30 m tall. It has a very large pole like trunk. It has only a few, short, stubby branches. It is bare of leaves for most of the year. It develops leaves during times of rain. The leaves have 5 small leaflets which are wavy at the edges. The flowers are small, erect and white. The seeds are large and oily.

HABITAT

It only grows naturally in western Madagascar. It suits hardiness zones 10-12. In Brisbane Botanical Gardens.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seeds.

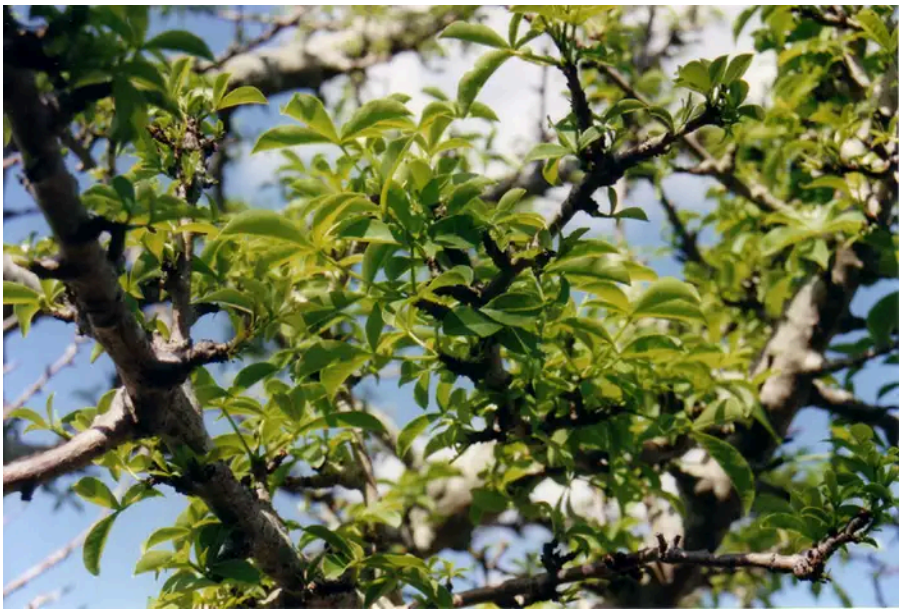
Harvesting and Seed Production

Early growth is fast.

NOTES

The seeds contain 37 % edible oil but this oil contains fatty acids which should not be eaten in large quantities.
There are 6-8 Adansonia species.
Also put in the family Bombacaceae. In the subfamily Bombacoideae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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