PLANT FACT SHEET

Erythrophleum africanum (Welw. ex Benth.) Harms

GENUS *Erythrophleum* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Ununza tree, Ordeal tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds

The seeds are eaten.
CAUTION: the bark is probably very poisonous.

DESCRIPTION

A medium sized tree. It grows up to 15 m tall. The bark is grey and smooth in young trees and rough and brown in old trees. The leaves are divided twice with 3-4 pairs of side branches which carry 11-14 pairs of leaflets. The leaflets are 2.5-5 cm long. The underneath is hairy. The bases have unequal sides and become narrow. They are carried on short stalks. They turn yellow in autumn. The flowers occur in short dense groups about 2.5 cm long. They are greenish-yellow with a reddish tinge. The pods are 8-20 cm long and about 4 cm wide. They are hard and flat and burst open. There are 6 hard brown seeds inside. The seeds are edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the desert. It can grow in arid places. It grows in savannah woodland and on the edges of mangroves.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

Fruit take 3-4 months to ripen.

NOTES

The roots and leaves are poisonous. There are about 9-17 Erythrophleum species. Also as Caesalpinaceae.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/f0ed8a83-1cfb-492c-ab7d-3422114665cc