

# Fagaropsis angolensis

*Rutaceae*

Indigenous

- Common names:** **Arusha:** olmoirijoi; **Bara:** marambit; **Chag:** mfu, mtua; **Eng:** fagaropsis; **Iraqw:** garumo, mtongoti, taewi; **Maasai:** olmoljoi; **Samb:** mkunguni.
- Ecology:** Common in dry evergreen forest and at the edges of wetter rain forests, 1,200-2,000 m. In Tanzania it is found in Kilimanjaro, West Usambara, Arusha, Mbulu and Iringa.
- Uses:** Firewood, timber (furniture, flooring).
- Description:** Medium or large deciduous tree from 7 m, occasionally to 20 m, with spreading crown. Sometimes with buttresses. **BARK:** grey-brown, slightly corky, branchlets purple-brown, **hairy, dotted with pale lenticels.** **LEAVES:** compound, opposite on a **stalk to 30 cm without hairs**, with 2-4 pairs of ovate leaflets and one terminal leaflet, 4-9 cm long, **aromatic when crushed.** Lateral leaves unequal sided. **FLOWERS:** small, inconspicuous, green-yellow, produced **in heads or on branched flowering stalks up to 12 cm long** on the bare tree. Sepals white, hairy outside. Male and female flowers separate on the same tree. **FRUIT: rounded to 1 cm** across, pale green with dark raised gland dots, soft, **shiny purple when ripe.**
- Propagation:** Seedlings, root suckers.
- Seed info.:** No. of seeds per kg: 4,000-4,500. The germination is very good and fast.
- treatment:** not necessary
- storage:** can keep viability for only a short time (2 months) at room temperature.
- Management:** Fairly fast growing; coppicing.
- Remarks:** The timber is fine, grey, moderately hard but not durable. Heavily exploited and threatened in the West Usambara Mountains as the timber is highly valued. It is easy **to** saw, finishes well and can make beautiful furniture and panelling.

