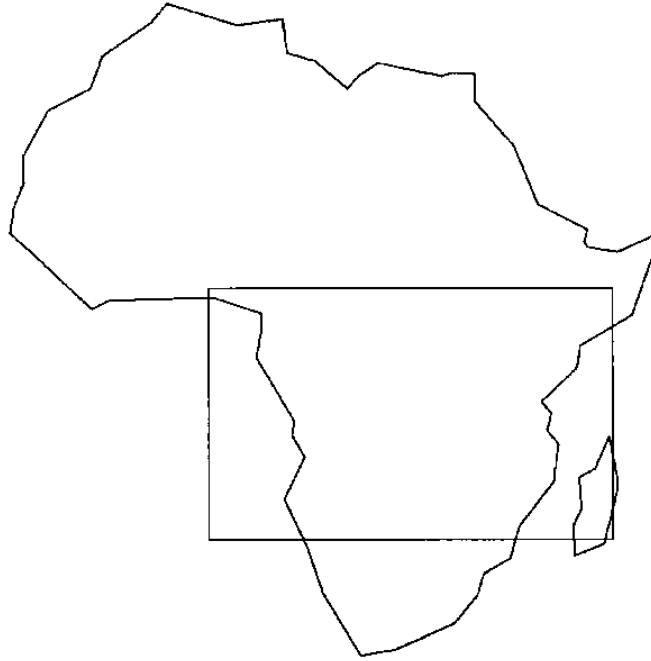




Commercial names:	engl.: Red stinkwood esp.: fr.:
Common names:	Cameroon: Alummy (Bamenda), Kirah (Banso), Lluo (Kom), Vla (Oku), Wotangué (Bakweri) Kenya: Muri (Kikuyu), Tenduet Others: African cherry, Gwane, Mgambo, Mkomohoyo, Mseneo, Ntasesa
Scientific synonyms:	<i>Pygeum africanum</i> Hook. f.
Subject to CITES regulations:	All parts and derivatives, except seeds, spores, pollen (including pollinia), seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers and cut flowers of artificially propagated plants.
Macroscopic characteristics of the wood:	Wood uniform golden brown, diffuse porous, growth rings absent, seldom fine and marked by bands of zoned parenchyma. The sapwood and heartwood are well differentiated; the sapwood is light brown and the heartwood is golden brown with pink lines. Fibres slightly flattened radially, fibres straight, sometimes wavy and interlocked. Hardness: moderately hard and heavy Grain: medium to fine Specific weight: 0.72 – 0.76 g/cm ³
Microscopic characteristics of the wood:	Growth rings absent or indistinct, diffuse porous. Vessels solitary and in radial multiples of 2 – 8, oval to round, 5 – 30/mm ² . Average tangential diameter (75 –) 100 (– 175 µm); walls 2 – 5 µm thick, 380 – 710 µm long. Perforation plates simple and oblique. Intervascular pits alternate, usually polygonal with a diameter of 2 – 5 µm, the thinnest elements occasionally have spiral thickenings. Gum deposits frequently present. Parenchyma moderately abundant, diffuse apotracheal and scanty paratracheal, sometimes forming narrow irregular marginal lines. Rays heterocellular, uni- and multiseriate 1 – 4 (6) cells wide; uniseriate ones homocellular, multiseriate ones heterocellular, 4 – 14 per mm ² . The multiseriate rays have wings of 1 – 6 erect and square cells, crystals infrequent. Fibretracheids 720 – 2010 µm long with very thin to medium thick walls, pits minute.
Characteristics of the trees:	A tree that grows to 40 – 60 centimetres in diameter and 30 metres high with a crown of 20 metres diameter, rarely 1 metre in diameter and up to 40 metres high. Straight trunk, with four buttress roots at the base with concave or convex profile, 8 – 10 centimetres thick, to 1 metre from the tree and 1 metre high sometimes branched in V - shape near the ground. Bark rough, blackish brown. Tropical forests with a precipitation of more than 1000 mm, between 2000 and 2200 metres above sea level, especially on volcanic soils.
Characteristics of trade:	It is usually sold as bark or extracts, the wood is mainly used locally.

Distribution: Tropical Africa: Cameroon, Kenya, Malawi, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Republic of the Congo, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Madagascar, Comoros, Santo Tomé and Fernando Poo.

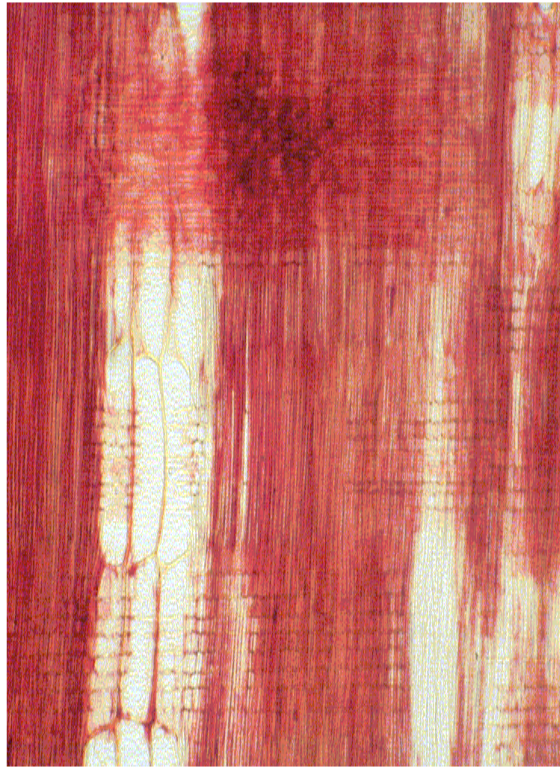


Use: Extracts from the bark are used for the treatment of prostate diseases. The wood is used to build wagons and carts, furniture and cabins, interior finishing, farming implements, tool handles and articles for sports and lath work.

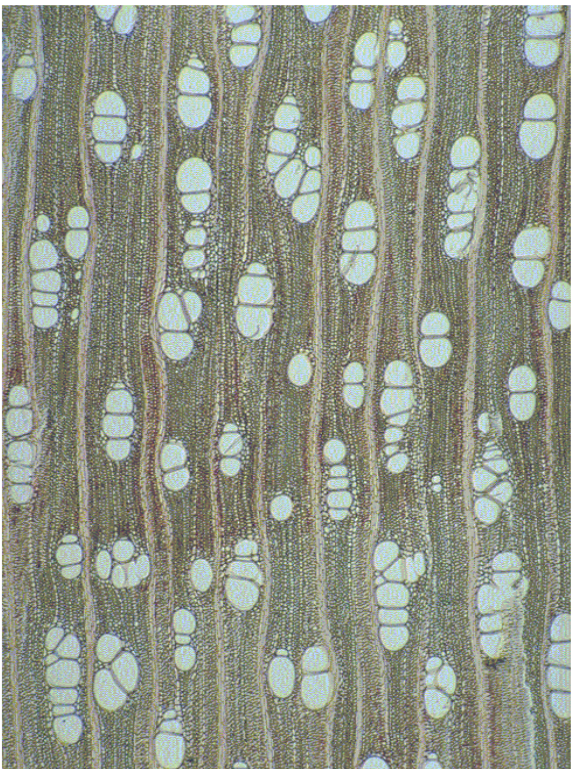
Similar species: There are 400 species in this genus. There is another African species called *Prunus crassifolia* (Haum.) Kalkman, which has a more limited distribution and grows between 2800 and 3000 metres, although it could be considered as a variety of *Prunus africana*.

Prunus africana





transverse section



tangential section



radial section