

Status global: **Endemic (CR)** Status local: **Rare**

This Critically Endangered shrub is known from 4 collections. It is rare as few specimens have been found despite extensive searches.

**Striking identification features**

- small orange fruits at base of leaf
- opposite leaves
- distinct stipule and domatia



**Description**

*Stature:* a shrub.

*Size:* 3-7 m tall.

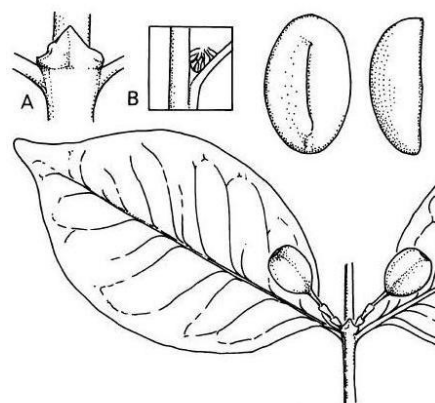
*Bark:* mid-brown.

*Leaves:* opposite, dark green, glossy and leathery (7.5-13.5 x 3.5-6.5 cm).

*Flower:* not described but now photographed (left by C.J. Kilawe).

*Fruit:* orange (up to 1.5 x 1 cm) at base of leaf.

*Seed:* immature seeds, olive green.



(source: Bridson, 1994)

Note stipule (A) and domatium (B)

**Status and distribution:** Endemic to Kimboza with type specimen collected at 450m near the Kibungo Mission. Species assessed as Critically Endangered [B2ab(iii)].

**Habitat requirements:** Found in forest type composed of *Milicia excelsa*, *Rhodognaphalon schumannianum* and *Terminalia sambesiaca* as dominant on crystalline limestone outcrops. In 2020, during extensive searches, a few individuals have been located. They were found clumped in near pristine forest.

**Phenology:** Young fruits in February and April, and mature in July. Flowered in early September 2020.

**Reproduction:** Bird-dispersed.

**Uses in East Africa:** None are known.

**Local uses:** None are known.

**Sources and further information**

*Botanical description:* Bridson (1994)

*Herbarium specimen:* Bidgood, S., Mwasumbi, L. & Vollesen, K. 1246 (K, BR, DSM, EA, MO, NHT, WAG) type, 1988-04-21, fr

Rodgers *et al.* 2511 (DSM, K), 1983-07

Mwasumbi *et al.* 12393 (DSM, K)

Mvungi 8 (DSM, EA, K, NHS), 2002-02-26 green fr

*Field record:*

Kilawe 2020-09-01, fl.

Bridson, D.M. (1994) Additional notes on *Coffea* (Rubiaceae) from Tropical East Africa. Kew Bull. 49, 331-342.

