

Albizia bernieri E. Fourn. ex Villiers

Alimboro - *Acacia bernieri* (E. Fourn.) Baill.

Fabaceae

Striking features

- umbrella-shaped mature crowns.

Large tree, often umbrella-shaped, commonly found on moister soils.



Description

Stature: mature crown generally umbrella-shaped.

Size: large tree (to 25m) with thick stems (ca 50 cm in diam).

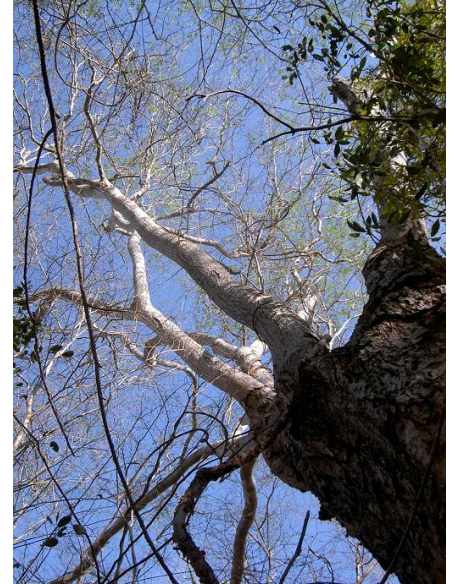
Bark: variable, whitish to pale grey but darker when thick and finely fissured.

Leaves: small parapinnate (to 12 cm long) with 4-15 pairs of pinnae bearing 15-40 pairs of leaflets (up to 5x1 mm).

Flower: Inflorescence an axillary head, in clusters of up to 5. Peduncle 2-4.5 mm long. Flowers mostly hermaphrodite with long stamens (2 cm).

Fruit: pods are oblong and flat, 8-21 x 3-5 cm.

Seed: black, 10-12 x 6 mm.



Ecology

Status and distribution: Common species throughout western Madagascar.

Habitat requirements: In deciduous forest and thickets up to 100 m asl. Commonly found along streams and on moist soils.

Phenology: flowering – October-December.

Kirindy:

Reproduction:

Uses

The wood is light and soft. Although it can be easily worked, it is little used.

Sources and further information

General:

Botanical description: Abraham (1991) p 19, Philipson (2005) p 5.

Forestry:

Kirindy: Anon. (1993) no. 357.

Herbarium specimen: www.aluka.org