

Dupuya madagascariensis (R. Vig.) J.H. Kirkbr.

Fabaceae

Anakaraka - *Cordyla madagascariensis* R. Vig.

Striking features

- multi-stemmed individuals after been cut.

Large timber species that was formerly widely harvested. Cut trees have often regrown as multi-stemmed individuals.



Description

Stature: coppices readily when cut.

Size: large tree to 25 m high and occasionally a stem diameter of 90 cm.

Bark: intermediate roughness to scaly.

Leaves: pinnate to 22 cm long, with 315-20 pairs of leaflets.

Flower:

Fruit: berry-like, fleshy, 5-10 cm long containing 1-4 seeds.

Seed: 2-2.5 cm.

Ecology

Status and distribution: Formerly part of genus *Cordyla* of 5 species, 3 in Africa and 2 Malagasy endemics. The two Malgasy species have now been assigned to the new genus *Dupuya*. Distribution restricted to the central part of western Madagascar.

Habitat requirements: lowlands to an altitude of about 600 m a.s.l. Annual rainfall 500-1200 mm. A light-demanding species that requires good drainage and fertile soils..

Phenology: deciduous. Flowering: September-November. Fruiting: October-June.

Kirindy: average yearly height increment of 40 cm.

Reproduction:



Uses

Formerly the second most important timber species. Mildly susceptible to termites. Hard, heavy and durable wood sought after for furniture making, but the wood is used for many purposes Used by locals to make coffins.

Sources and further information

General: Blaser *et. al.* (1993)

Botanical description: Abraham (1991) p 21, Philipson () p 295, Schatz (2005) p 186.

Forestry:

Kirindy: Anon. (1993) no. 150 & 412.

Herbarium specimen: www.efloras.org