

Vontaky

Small spiny tree with little branching found here and there along the drier parts of the Canoco trail.

**Striking features**

- spiny trunk
- terminal upright pods
- tufts of dense long green leaves at apex of shoots



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**Description**

*Stature:* branching occurs after flowering. And is absent in juveniles.  
*Size:* shrub to small tree (to 8 m).  
*Bark:* extremely prickly.  
*Leaves:* new flush of leaves occur at the apex of shoots.  
*Flower:* large showy white flowers..  
*Fruit:*  
*Seed:*



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**Ecology**

*Status and distribution:* Found along the NW of Madagascar. Kirindy is about its southern limit.  
*Habitat requirements:* This species is usually found in drier regions than Kirindy, thus here it occurs in the driest habitats.  
*Phenology:* deciduous, new flush of growth in Nov-Dec. Inflorescences appear at the same time as leaves.  
*Kirindy:* uncommon. Can be found here and there along the Canoco trail.  
*Reproduction:* One leafless tree had pods in November 2008.



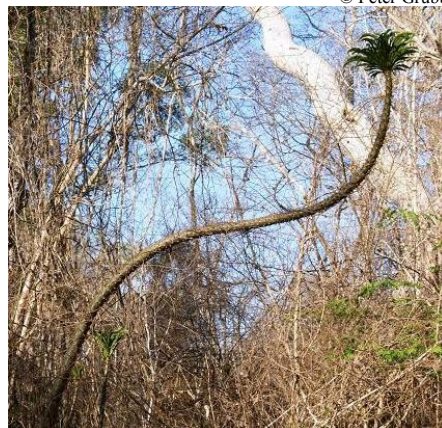
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**Uses**

None reported.

**Sources and further information**

*General:*  
*Botanical description:* Flore de Madagascar No. 169.  
*Forestry:*  
*Kirindy:*  
*Herbarium specimen:*  
*References:*  
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