

## What is this Action Sheet about?

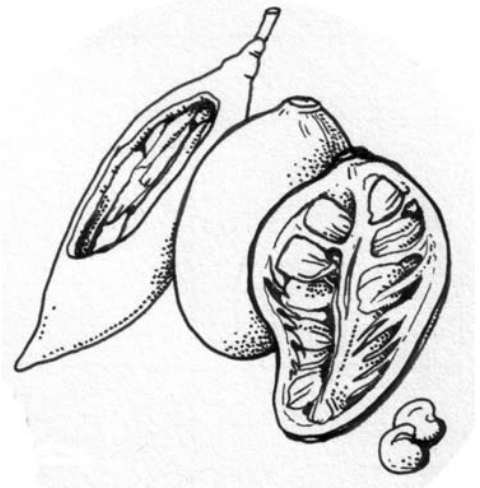
If you would like to plant a particular tree species but cannot find seeds or cuttings locally, then this Action Sheet may help by listing the addresses of organisations which supply tree seed.

## What should we consider before ordering tree seed?

The World Agroforestry Centre has the following important advice:

Before ordering seed, check whether the species is allowed into your country. If the species is listed as a weed or invasive species, there may be laws against transporting it into the country.

To avoid contributing to the destruction of natural wild habitats, it is important not to encourage the spread of invasive weedy exotic plants. There are also strict laws on the safe transport of plant material, and measures must be taken to avoid transport of pests and diseases associated with seeds.



## What else does the World Agroforestry Centre say about ordering seed?

### Order the seed well ahead of the time you need it. This is important because....

....suppliers may not have stock of seed of the type of tree you want to plant, or existing stock may not be sufficient if you are ordering in large quantities

.... you need to take into account the time interval needed to raise seedlings ready for field planting

....if you are ordering seeds for a nitrogen fixing tree, you may also need to order microsymbiont inoculum. If so, you should also make this order as early as possible

....many species flower and produce seeds at irregular intervals (not every year) and only in variable amounts. If the supplier knows your requirements in advance, then corresponding collections can be made

- However, some seeds do not store easily, and it is important to make sure you receive the seeds close enough to the time of planting so they do not lose their fertility.

### Give the supplier full details of the seeds you want:

- Whether you are looking for a particular taxon, species, subspecies, variety, or population (provenance), indicate precisely which seed you need. Different provenances of seed will be adapted to different soil and climate conditions. Ask the supplier to send documentation on the available populations (provenances) of a species, or ask the supplier to select the right provenance based on your needs.
- If a specific type of collection other than bulked seed is required (for example, single tree collections or collections from selected trees), ask the supplier if such material is available.



### Give the supplier full details on the proposed planting site and the purpose of planting if you need assistance in selecting material.

**Tell them the:**

- Location (for example latitude, longitude, altitude)
- Climate (for example mean annual rainfall, rainfall regime, length of the dry season, mean maximum temperature and humidity of hottest month, mean minimum temperature of coldest month, mean annual temperature and humidity, occurrence of frost and snow)
- Soil (for example broad classification, approximate soil depth, texture, drainage, pH, salinity)
- Has the taxon already been planted on the site? If yes, give details of the material already introduced if known (supplier/population/origin/provenance) and give an indication of its adaptability and performance
- Other species planted or growing at or around the site
- End uses: What is the objective of the planting and what types of products or services are expected? For example, timber, fuelwood, construction poles, fodder, food, gums, medicinal products, soil stabilization, watershed protection, shelterbelts, windbreaks

**Give the supplier practical details:**

- Correct address with all available details (street, town, country, fax, e-mail)
- Information on most reliable shipping method and routing
- Quantity of seedlings or number of viable seeds required
- Proposed period of field sowing
- If storage facilities are available or not

**Request the supplier to send you the following information:**

- Confirmation that the taxon required is available
- Confirmation that the quantity required is available
- The date when the seeds will be ready for dispatch
- Information on any special seed order or request form to be used
- Price of the seeds, mode of payment and any advance payment required. For seed available free of charge, ask how you qualify to receive it
- Biosafety issues - is information provided with the seed?
- Documentation on: collection site location, collection site description, collection method (including approximate number of sampled trees), date of collection
- Information on any storage requirements and pretreatment needed

**Return the completed seed order or request form (if it is required) as soon as possible:**

- Repeat the details about your seed requirements
- Ask for a phytosanitary certificate to be issued together with the seed.

Countries whose governments have signed up to the International Plant Protection Convention carry out inspection and treatment of seeds and other plant material being transported between countries. This is to ensure that pests and diseases are not transported along with plants and plant products. The phytosanitary certificate is an assurance that the tree seeds have been inspected and treated according to your country's laws.

- Make an advance payment if required

### **After receiving seeds:**

- Take all needed precautions to secure that you introduce the germplasm safely
- Acknowledge receipt
- Arrange for payment (if required)
- Follow the instructions on seed storage and pretreatments, where applicable
- File and safeguard the documentation provided with the seeds, and of the use and performance of the material. This information is essential for ordering additional seeds of a taxon, or for reporting trial results
- Keep the supplier informed on the performance of material and any problems encountered in seed germination, seedling establishment or with pests and diseases

### **SEED SUPPLIERS**

#### **Angola**

National Director of Forestry  
Direccao Nacional da Conservacao da  
Natureza  
ZA-CX Postal 74 Luanda  
Angola  
Tel: (244-2) 320-393  
Fax: (244-2) 343-003

#### **Botswana**

Division of Forestry and Range  
Ecology  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Private Bag 003  
Gaborone  
Botswana  
Tel: (267) 350-513/305-253  
Fax: (267) 356 027/359-934

Tree Seed Officer  
Forestry Association of Botswana  
PO BOX 2088  
Botswana  
Tel: (267) 351-660  
Fax: (267) 300-316

#### **Burkina Faso**

Centre National De Semences  
Forestieres C.N.S.F  
01 BP 2682  
Ouagadougou 01  
Burkina Faso  
Tel: (226) 35 80 13, 35 61 11  
Fax: (226) 35 61 10  
E-mail: [cnsf@fasonet.bf](mailto:cnsf@fasonet.bf)  
Website: [http://members.spree.com/  
business/cnsf\\_bf/](http://members.spree.com/business/cnsf_bf/)

#### **Ethiopia**

Forestry Research Center  
PO Box 30708  
Addis Ababa  
Ethiopia  
Tel: (251-1) 182982, 184957  
Fax: (251-1) 612933

#### **Kenya**

Ebukura Tree Seeds Plants  
P.O. Box 116 Shivuli via Kakamega or  
P.O. Box 71118 Nairobi  
Kenya  
Tel: (254/2) 787169  
Fax: (254/2) 787169  
E-mail: [ebukura@betsy.africaonline.  
com](mailto:ebukura@betsy.africaonline.com)

Indigenous Technical Knowledge  
Initiatives for Sustainable Agriculture  
and Environment (ITKISAE)  
P. O. Box 421 Busia OR  
P. O. Box 72620 Nairobi  
Kenya

Kenya Forestry Seed Centre  
PO Box 20412  
Nairobi  
Kenya  
Tel (254-154) 32484, 32893  
Fax (254-154) 32844

#### **Lesotho**

Forestry Research Centre  
Forestry Division  
PO BOX 774  
Maseru 100  
Lesotho  
Tel: (266) 324-416/312-826  
Fax: (266) 310 349

#### **Malawi**

Forest Research Institute of Malawi  
PO BOX 270  
Zomba  
Malawi  
Tel (265) 522-866/548  
Fax: (265) 522 782

FSTCU  
Desk Officer  
Forestry Sector  
Technical Co-ordination Unit  
Malawi  
Tel: (265) 781-000/781-812  
Fax: (265) 784 268

#### **Mozambique**

Seed Centre Manager  
Forestry Research Centre  
Ministerio da Agricultura-DNFFB  
CP 1406  
Maputo  
Mozambique  
Tel: (258-1) 460-097/9  
Fax: (258-1) 460-060

### **Mozambique**

Centro de Experimentacao Florestal -  
Marracuene  
Mozambique  
Tel (258-1) 430808  
Fax (258-1) 460060  
E-mail antonia@ribeiro.uem.mz

### **Namibia**

Directorate of Forestry  
Private Bag 13184  
Windhoek  
Namibia  
Tel: (264-61) 221-671/478  
Fax: (264-61) 222 830

National Tree Seed Centre  
Directorate of Forestry  
Private Bag 13346, Windhoek,  
Namibia  
Tel (264-61) 221671, 221478  
Fax (264-61) 222830  
E-mail Muller@forestry.met.gov.na

### **Niger**

Centre des Semences Forestieres  
BP 578  
Niamey  
Niger  
Tel (227) 723182, 733339  
Fax (227) 732784

### **Senegal**

Project National de Semences  
Forestieres (PRONASEF)  
BP 3818  
Dakar  
Senegal  
Tel: 836/14/11  
Fax: 836/14/09  
E-mail: pronasef@ns.arc.sn

### **South Africa**

SAFCOL Research  
South African Forestry Company Ltd  
PO  
Box 574  
SABIE, 1260  
South Africa  
Tel: (27-13) 7643493  
Fax: (27-13) 7641239  
E-mail:  
LVDMERWE@MAIL.SAFCOL.CO.ZA

### **Swaziland**

Forestry Section  
Ministry of Agriculture  
PO BOX 162  
Mbabane  
Swaziland  
Tel: (268) 42731/10  
Fax: (268) 44700

### **Sudan**

National Tree Seed Center  
Forest Research Center  
P. O. Box 7089 Khartoum  
Sudan  
Tel 787136

### **Tanzania**

National Tree Seed Programme  
PPO BOX 4012  
Morogoro  
Tanzania  
Tel: (255-56) 3903/3192  
Fax: (255-56) 3275

Tanzania Forestry Research Institute  
(TAFORI)  
PO Box 95  
Lushoto  
Tanzania

### **Uganda**

Forestry Research Institute (FORI)  
PO Box 1752  
Kampala  
Uganda  
Tel (256-41) 255163-5, 244140,  
251916/9  
Fax (256-41) 234252, 255165  
Telex 61186 SHIBSSC UG.

Uganda National Tree Seed Project  
Project Manager, P.O. Box 23889  
Kampala  
Uganda  
Tel 256-41-286049  
Fax 256-41-251918  
E-mail treeseed@swiftuganda.com

### **Zambia**

Forestry Department  
Division of Forestry Research  
PO BOX 22099  
Kitwe  
Zambia  
Tel: (260-2) 220-456/224-110  
Fax: (260-2) 224-110

### **Zimbabwe**

Forestry Research Centre  
PO BOX HG 595  
Highlands  
Harare  
Zimbabwe  
Tel: (263-4) 47070  
Fax: (263-4) 47066  
E-mail: frchigh@harara.iafrica.com

### **Acknowledgements**

This Action Sheet is based on the World Agroforestry Centre Tree Seed Suppliers Database.  
[www.worldagroforestry.org](http://www.worldagroforestry.org)