



NOTES FROM THE UNAFAS CVP TREE NURSERY, ON HOW TO GERMINATE AND NURSE USEFUL TREE SPECIES OF CAMEROON

Jacaranda

Scientific Name – *Jararanda mimosoides*

[Link to seedling photo](#)

Jacaranda grows to be 25-30 m tall. The leaves fall in the dry season, then it produces a mass of beautiful blue flowers. Jacaranda can be shaped into an attractive, spreading shade tree by hanging weights on branches as they grow.

Jacaranda is easy to nurse. Fruits mature in the dry season, they split open on the tree, and fall to the ground, with many small, flat, dry seeds inside. They are easy to collect and store.

Nursery technique

- Make a seed bed with loose soil at least 40 cm deep. It should be in the sun, or light shade.
- Scatter the seeds evenly, one layer thick, on the top of the seed bed, cover with soil, and water well.
- Weed and water regularly.
- Use a thatch roof or other system to protect the seed bed and small seedlings from heavy rain.
- When the seedlings are as tall as your hand, gently loosen the soil in the seed bed, taking care not to damage the delicate roots. Transfer each seedling to a small or medium sized bag or container, taking care to let the roots spread naturally, amongst the soil.
- Arrange seedlings so that each plant has its own space, and they do not overlap too much.
- They grow faster in the sun.
- Remove leaves that become yellow or thin, this will encourage growth.
- Seedlings are ready to plant out when they are as your knee, or bigger, 6-18 months old.