



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

### Azobe

Scientific Name - *Lophira alata*

[Link to Azobe seedling photo](#)

Azobe seed does not keep well, as soon as it falls from the parent tree insects start to enter, eat, lay eggs and destroy the seed. Once seed starts falling, it should be collected daily, and stored in a bag or box with wood ash. Seed should be planted as soon as possible, within days rather than weeks.

### Nursery technique

- It is best to sow seeds directly in to pots, place them on the soil surface of medium or large bags filled with soil.
- The shoot often starts to grow like a coiled up spring, which will gradually straighten out.
- Azobe produces a tap root, and produces a lot of root before shoots and leaves.
- Germination can take up to 6 months.
- If no shoots appear do not poke around looking to see if the seed has germinated, whether it is rotten or growing, as this can damage and destroy the delicate 'buds'.
- When seedlings are the height of a Tangui bottle they can be planted out, or transferred to larger bags or containers. Trim the roots if they are too big for the pots.
- Ideally plant out when the seedlings are all tall as your arm is long.

### NOTES

*Notes from the UNAFAS CVP tree nursery, Ngyen Mbo, Momo division,  
CAMEROON*