

You are viewing one of thousands of biographies – click below for more, including Search box and access to Plant associated organisations.

[Plant Biographies](#)

[Bibliography](#)

Coffea canephora

[Synonyms : *Coffea bukobensis*, *Coffea canephora* var. *kouilouensis*, *Coffea canephora* var. *sankuruensis*, *Coffea robusta*]

ROBUSTA COFFEE is a shrub or tree. Native to tropical western Africa it has small fragrant, white flowers.

It is also known as Australian sandarac, *Café robusta* (French, Portuguese), *Caféier canéphore* (French), *Caféier robuste* (French), *Cafeto robusto* (Spanish), *Caffe di Congo* (Italian), *Càphê robusta* (Vietnamese), Congo coffee, Congo coffeetree, *Kafae* (Thai), *Kaffee* (German), *Kávovník robusta* (Czech), *Kofeo fortika* (Esperanto), *Kofe robusta* (Russian), *Kongokaffee* (German), *Kongonkahvi* (Finnish), Quillou coffee, Rio nunez coffee, *Robustakaffe* (Swedish), *Robusta-Kaffee* (German), *Robustakaffebaum* (German), *Robustakaffeestrauch* (German), *Robusta koohii* (Japanese), and *Zhong guo ka fei* (Chinese).

It was introduced to Singapore in 1915.

This species, and Liberian coffee (*Coffea liberica*), is used mainly for producing commercial instant coffee and accounts for 24% of the world's coffee supply today.

In the Spring of 2001 world attention was drawn disturbingly to commercial West African plantations, including those growing coffee. Reports from aid workers in Africa and from journalists declared that children (thousands of them) were being sold by poor families, were kidnapped or were lured into slavery under false pretences to work on these commercial plantations and that this had by then been going on for some time. It was reported that these children were being made to work for long hours (often at extremely dangerous tasks) and were forced to live in appalling conditions.