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Entandrophragma cylindricum

[Synonyms : *Entandrophragma angolense*, *Entandrophragma lebrunii*, *Entandrophragma tomentosum*, *Pseudocedrela cylindrica*, *Swietenia angolensis*]

SAPELE is a deciduous tree. Native to tropical Africa it has whitish flowers.

It is also known as *Aboudikro* (Ivorian), *Edinam* (Ghanaian), *Libuyu* (Zairean), *Muyovo* (Ugandan), *Penkwa* (Ghanaian), *Sapele mahogany*, and *Sapelii* (Cameroonian).

The fragrant (cedar-like), reddish-brown heartwood with its cedar-like (*Cedrus*) fragrance is known commercially as *Acajo d’Afrique* or *Sapelé*.

Sapele is threatened in many African countries in the wild due to over-harvesting and some countries are making preservation orders on this species and containing/controlling felling.

Cylindricum means 'cylindrical or long and rounded'.

Sapelé, which is said to take a polish well, is valued for making furniture as an alternative to mahogany (*Swietenia mahagoni*). It is used in the manufacture of plywood, in joinery and veneering, and also for boat-building, interior panelling, stairs and flooring.