

***Acacia coleii*, a multi-purpose Australian Acacia for Africa's Drylands**

Acacia coleii is a multi-purpose tree from the arid and semi-arid tropical region of Australia. It is well adapted to harsh semi-arid conditions with highly variable annual rainfall of 350-800 mm and grows well in a range of soil types, especially poor sandy soils. It is a pioneer species which establishes well in tree nurseries and when planted out can growth to 3-4 m in two years. It produces good quantities of safe, nutritious seed (~2 kg/tree/yr.) which is high in protein (21-23%), carbohydrate (50%), fat (7%) and fibre. When the seeds are ground into flour they can be mixed with cereal grains and incorporated into a range of local foods. Flowering and seed production is enhanced through pruning/coppicing which also produces large amounts of sustainable fuel wood and improves tree longevity. *A. coleii* can also play a vital role in the restoration of degraded land, produce mulch for soil amelioration, fix nitrogen, give sustainable fuel wood and timber and is well adapted to Agroforestry farming systems.



A. coleii (2 yrs.)



A.olei var. *ileocarpa* seed pods



A.olei var. *olei* seed pods



A.olei seed pods at harvest



A.olei seed.

Benefits & Uses

Reclamation of degraded lands



A.colei a pioneer spp. for land reclamation in NW Niger (300-350 mm rainfall)

Windbreak on farm borders



A.colei & *A.torulosa* as farm border trees, Maradi, Niger

Seed for human/animal food



A. colei seed



A. colei flour (25%) mixed with cereals



Village Acacia food demonstration



Baby weaning formula with 15% Acacia flour

Kunun-Gina, Jiki, cike da Vitamines

- 1. Hatsu
- 2. Dawa
- 3. Gujiya
- 4. Waken Soya
- 5. Ridi
- 6. Yan Makka
- 7. Dan Tahoua
- 8. Kwamen Kuka
- 9. gishiri
- 10. Sukari

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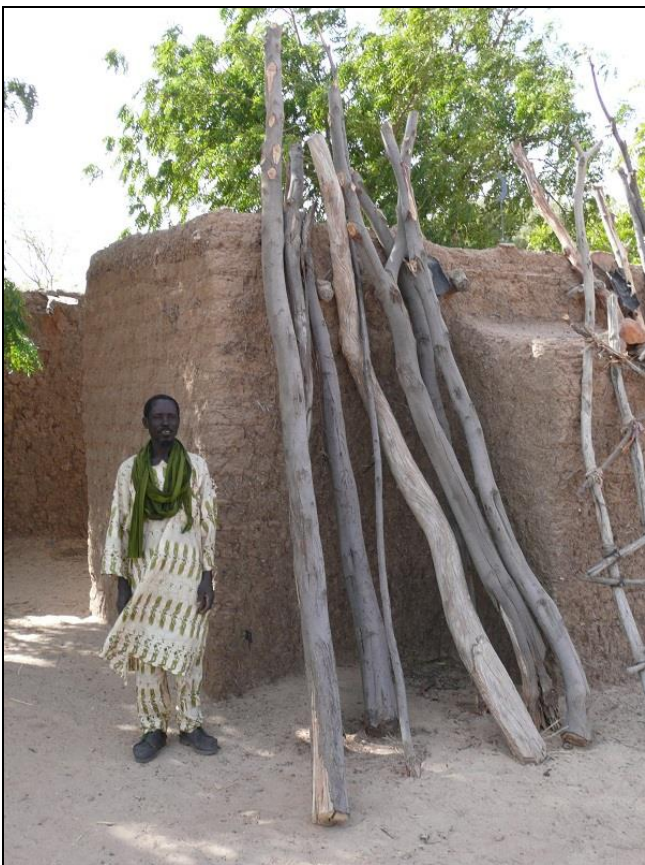
Sustainable fuel wood, timber



A. coleii pruned for poles (4 yrs.)



Fuel wood from *A. coleii* (3 yrs.)



A. coleii pole production (4-5 yrs.)



Regrowth after pruning (4 weeks). Sustainable wood production

Mulch & Compost



Mulch from *A. colei* prunings increases organic matter/soil fertility



Termites compost *A. colei* leaves and incorporate in soil.

Agroforestry farming systems



A. colei intercropped with Sorghum. Farmer Managed Agroforestry Farming System (FMAFS)



Village FMAFS. *A. colei* & *A. torulosa*, Maradi, Niger