

# *Euphorbia candelabrum*

Euphorbiaceae



## Indigenous

**Am:** *Kulkual*

**Eng:** *Candelabra euphorbia, Tree euphorbia*

**Or:** *Adami*

## Ecology

Grows in both dry deciduous and evergreen woodlands in Dry and Moist Kolla and Weyna Dega agroclimatic zones in Shoa, Harerge, Bale and Sidamo, 1,200–1,700 m.

## Uses

Firewood, timber (roofing, tables, matches, boxes, saddles), fence (cut branches), live fence.

## Description

A tree up to 15 m, the trunk thick, to 3 m, where the lower branches have fallen away. Erect branches have 3–5 spiny ribs or wings and branches go on dividing to make a large round crown. The green-grey stems have many narrow “waists” and have taken over the leaf function to make food. LEAVES: No true leaves, just scales. FLOWERS: Small, green-yellow and fleshy in groups of 4–6 next to the paired spines. FRUIT: Green-red pea-size capsules, seeds spotted with dirty white.

## Propagation

Cuttings.

## Seed

**Treatment:** Not applicable

**Storage:** Not applicable

## Management

Continuous reinforcement planting if grown as a fence. Do planting when the rain is about to stop. Prefers well drained soil or site.

## Remarks

All parts of the plant produce copious milky latex which is poisonous; even one drop in the eye may cause blindness. When dry the light durable wood has many local uses and is good for roofing.

