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# Notes on Indigenous Trees and Shrubs of Southern Rhodesia

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**Conopharyngia stapfiana** (Britten) Stapf  
(Apocynaceae)

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**Conopharyngia stapfiana** (Britten) Stapf

(Apocynaceae)

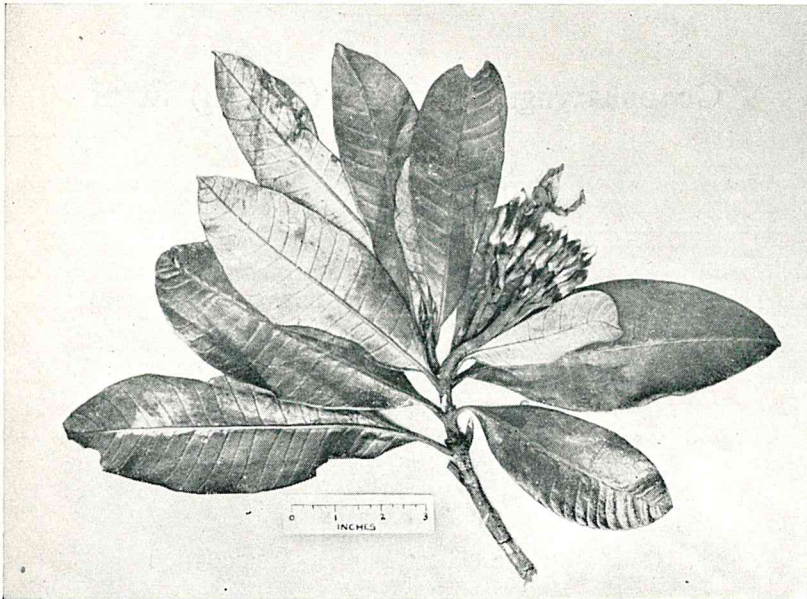
**Common Name.**—  
muchenga, muchesa (Chis.).

**Native Names.**—Muchanga,

**General Description.**—This tree, containing a milky latex, is up to about 40 feet high and with breast height diameters up to about 30 inches. Leaf scars are conspicuous on the twigs. The dark-green, glossy, opposite, simple, leathery, stipulate leaves, which are up to 9 inches long, are of an elliptical shape with more or less pointed tips. Midribs and straight main veins are very prominent on the lower surfaces which are of a paler green than the upper surfaces. Petioles are about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long. The white flowers, which are to be seen during the rainy season, are in corymbose inflorescences and each flower is about an inch in length. The globose fruits, singly or in pairs, are very large, being up to about 6 to 7 inches in diameter and weighing up to 5 lb. each.

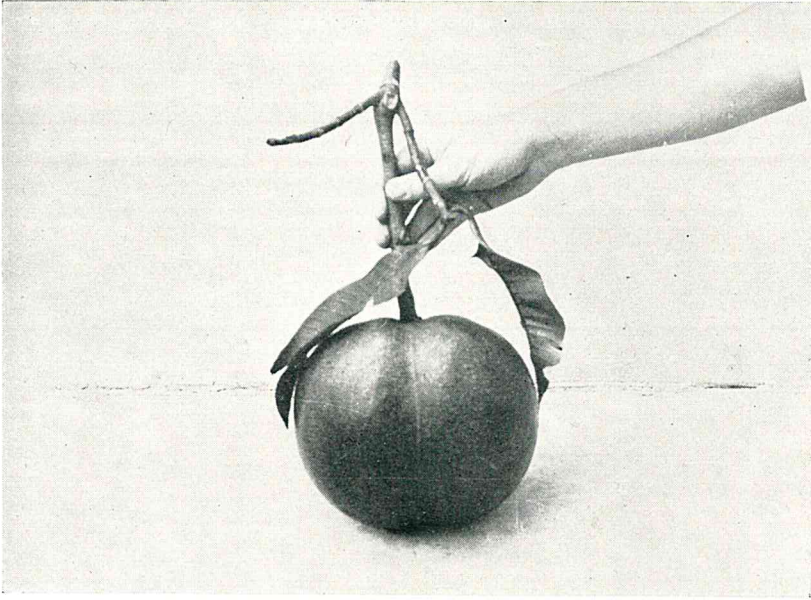
**Distribution.**—This tree is found in indigenous forests of high rainfall areas in the Eastern Border, e.g. in the Vumba area, and in immediately adjoining territories to the north and east.

**Uses.**—No special uses are known.



*Conopharyngia stapfiana*  
Leaves and flower buds.

[Photo by: A. A. Pardy.]



*Conopharyngia stapfiana*

Fruit.

[Photo by: A. A. Pardy.]