

Project Update: August 2020



A photo of *Securidaca longepedunculata* seeds. Left: © Collins Masinde. Right: © Gerald Kaniaru.



Gerald Kaniaru mapping the current few extant Violet tree individuals in their habitats in Makueni. © Collins Masinde.



Collection of the violet plant seeds on the trees for mass propagation. Left: © Collins Masinde. Right: © Gerald Kaniaru.

Documented threats facing *Securidaca longepedunculata* (Violet plant) trees

1. Herbivory



Left: Goats grazing in violet plant habitats. Right: Animal dung witnessed in the violet plant habitats. © Collins Masinde.

2. Extraction of the violet plant bark for medicinal purposes



© Gerald Kaniaru.

3. Consumptive Harvesting of the target species for firewood



© Gerald Kaniaru.

4. Charcoal Burning



© Gerald Kaniaru.

Charcoal burning by the local community in the violet plant habitats posing a threat to the Violet plant existence

5. Conversion of the Violet plant habitats for agriculture



© Gerald Kaniaru.

Violet plant habitats converted to farmlands for planting maize and other food crops.

6. Degraded Habitats



© Gerald Kaniaru.

Violet plant growing on roadside. It is susceptible to destruction by man or infrastructure development like road construction.

Other violet plant degraded habitats



Left: Violet plant on rocky habitat. Right: The project team navigating through the degraded Violet plant habitats. © Gerald Kaniaru.



Left: Farmer engagement during seed collection and mapping of Violet plant localities. Right: Violet plant sapling destroyed by soil profile disintegration. © Gerald Kaniaru.