

Rare plants of the Kilum-Ijim mountain forests

Alchemilla fischeri subspecies *camerunensis*

local name: mbakilum (Oku) = ‘clouds on the mountain’



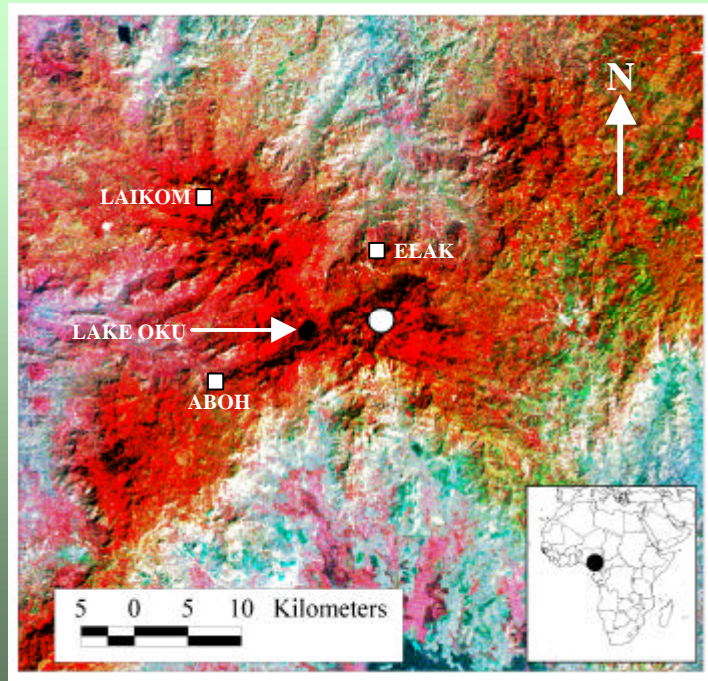
Pycnostachys meyeri Gürke
(Labiatae)

Alchemilla fischeri Engl.
subsp. *camerunensis* Letouzey
(Rosaceae)



Botanists explore the summit (3011 m) above Kilum forest. Elak is far below.

Satellite image of Kilum-Ijim



○ Represents the world distribution for *Alchemilla fischeri* subsp. *camerunensis*

This wonderful woolly-leaved perennial *Alchemilla* is an endemic subspecies, known only from the summit of Mount Oku, Cameroon and nowhere else on earth. There is an urgent need to protect this habitat from destruction.

Teams of botanists from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew in London, England and staff of the National Herbarium of Cameroon have been coming to Kilum-Ijim since June 1996. Working in close collaboration with the Kilum-Ijim Forest Project, many rare and threatened plants have been discovered.

The Oku, Nso and Kom people are working to protect the unique plants and animals of the Kilum-Ijim forest.