The tree size ranges from the size of a shrub to a height of 50 ft. with a trunk diameter of about 21 inches. Avoid the sap from the thin reddish bark from the Chechen tree because it is reported to be very caustic.
Chechen is distinctive because of its golden luster. It is native to Central America growing mostly in the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Jamaica, Belize and from the Yucatan to Vera Cruz in Mexico. It is also known as Black poisonwood, Poisontree and Chechen. The color of chechen heartwood is somewhat similar to American Black Walnut with a dark reddish brown coloration with dark brown stripes and American Black Walnut with a dark reddish brown coloration.