CATALOGUE OF THE SOUTH INDIAN TIMBERS IN THE COLLECTION OF SYSTEMATIC BOTANY GALLERY

BY

Tmt. M.N. Pushpa, M.Sc., M.A., Curator for Botany, Government Museum, Chennai.

New Series-Natural History Section Vol. XVIII

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PREFACE

The importance of plants in everyday life can hardly be over estimated as most of the things that we need have got their origin in some plant part or the other. The collections of, Botany Section are arranged in two galleries, namely the Systematic Botany Gallery and the Economic Botany Gallery. In the Systematic Botany Gallery, the exhibits are arranged in their evolutionary order starting with the primitive Cryptogams i.e., algae and fungi. The families of flowering plants are arranged according to the Bentham and Hooker's system of classification.

The Systematic Botany deals with the classification of plants. The study is based upon the structural resemblance of plants and is helpful in identifying them. The resemblances are brought out by describing, naming and arranging the plants in a methodical manner for which a thorough knowledge of morphology is necessary. This gallery is mostly used by the students and the scholars in the field of Botany for taxonomic references. Representative collection of the timber specimens of South India are kept on display in this gallery. The collections date back to the year 1946 itself and were received from the Utilization Officer, Forest Research Institute Dehra Dun. This Catalogue of South Indian timbers is the first of its kind and has been prepared with the commercial uses, by the author for the benefit of the students, the scholars and the researchers in the subject of Botany. This book provides information of the Botanical name and Vernacular names of the Timber specimens in Hindi, Sanskrit, Tamil, and a few other available names of other languages. The habit of the tree has been provided for the easy identification of the trees of commercial value. Hundred and sixty one timbers inclusive of eighty six specimens on display and seventy five in the Reserve collection have been enumerated here. The illustrative Photographs have also been provided only for the timber specimens kept on display. Based on the contents of taxonomical data, this Catalogue will be of useful reference work to botanists of all values of life and general public as well.

The timber collection showcased in the Gallery exhibits interesting specimens. To cite a few, the Cross section of Tectona grandis, commonly known as the Teak wood is displayed in the systematic Botany Gallery. This reveals the annual rings, depicted with the historical events that have taken place from the year 1400 to 1900 for a period of five hundred years. Similarly another interesting specimen is the 200 years old Dalbergia latifolia commonly called as the 'Rose wood'. It is a deciduous tree, attaining a large size in South India and also in Eastern Bengal and Central India. It belongs to the family 'Fabaceae'. The cross section of the wood is kept on display. It is quite interesting to note that both the specimens were gifted by the Maharaja of Travancore in the year 1880.

Place: Chennai- 600 008. Date: 24.01.'12. M.N.PUSHPA, M.Sc., M.A., Curator Botany, Government Museum, Chennai S.S. JAWAHAR, I.A.S., Principal Secretary / Commissioner of Museums Government Museum, Econore, Chennai-600 008



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FOREWORD

The Botany Section of Government Museum, Chennai has a rich collection of Botanical specimens arranged systematically in two galleries. The Economic Botany gallery highlights man's dependence on plants in the day-today life. The rich collection of South Indian Timbers showcased in the Systematic Botany Gallery highlights its commercial usage. The Section has been conducting periodical Exhibitions, Plant Preservation Training programmes and nature walk emphasizing the importance of flora.

'Cataloguing' is one form of documentation which helps in recording as well as disseminating the technical & popular data concerned with the museum collection. The Catalogues published by the Government Museum, Chennai are regarded as staple reference works amidst people of all walks of life.

Adding one more jewel to its crown, the Museum has taken up the endeavour of publishing the Catalogue of South Indian Timber with the aim of fulfilling the long felt need in this direction. In this work, one hundred and sixty one choice timbers both in display and reserve collection of the Botany Section of the Museum were catalogued with choice plates of illustration.

I congratulate Tmt.M.N.Pushpa, Curator for Botany of the Museum for her painstaking efforts in bringing out this catalogue.

I hope that this new addition to the list of publication of the Museum will be received both by the experts and interested general public as a useful publication.

S.S.Jawahar.L.

Principal Secretary/ Commissioner of Museums

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

COLLECTION OF THE SOUTH INDIAN TIMBERS IN THE SYSTEMATIC BOTANY GALLERY The tropics have a far richer diversity of trees than anywhere else on earth. For centuries these have provided many fine cabinets, woods and today provides most of the world's hardwood timber. Timber, which are the tree products, serve man in so many ways, whose utilization extends so vastly.

Timbers are used to make agricultural implements, boats, bows, box-wood, bridges, brush backs, cabinet works, canoes, carts, carriage buildings, carvings, charcoal, combs, drinking cups, fuel, firewood, gunstocks, guncarriages, house buildings, pounders and presses, packing cases, sleepers, tools, walking sticks, wheels etc.

Forest, obviously can exert the greatest control over the soil. In any plant community, there is a balance between plants and animals, which if upset may result in a change of the whole eco-system.



Hin - Aila Tam- Kariyundu, Tella Korinda Tel - Korinta Kan- Antarike Mal- Incha, attu, inna

வெள்ளிண்டு மரம்

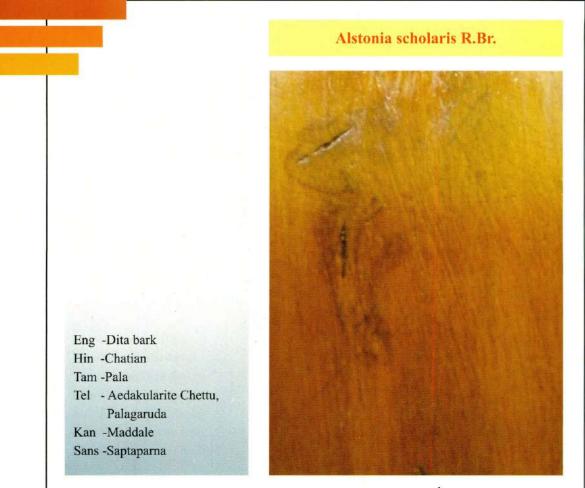
A large climber found in the sub-Himalayan tract from the Chenab eastward, throughout India. It belongs to the family Mimosaceae. The wood is white, soft, and porous.



Hin -Safed Kikar Tam -Velvayalam Tel -Tellatuma Mal -Pattacharaya maram San - Shvetabarbura

வெள்வேலமரம்

Found in all forest tracts of Central and South India and plains of the Punjab from Lahore to Delhi. It seems indifferent to climatic conditions and belongs to the family Mimosaceae. The plant sapwood is large; heart- wood is reddish brown, with lighter and darker streaks; extremely hard. It is brittle, makes good posts. It makes an excellent fuel.

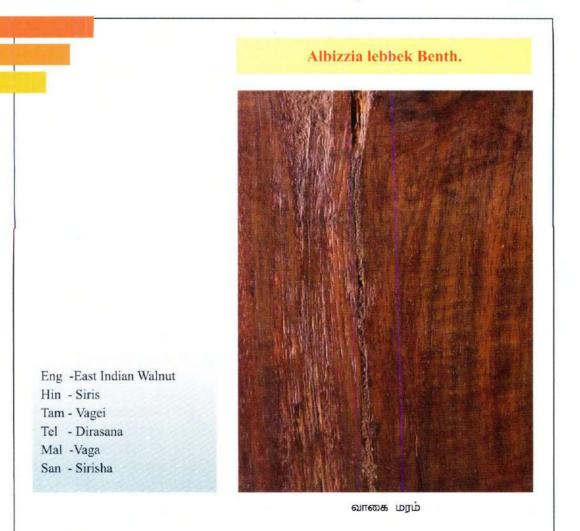


பால மரம்

A tall, evergreen tree, widely cultivated throughout India, commercially known as *Dita bark*, belongs to the family Apocynaceae. The wood is white, soft, and even-grained; seasons badly and soon gets mouldy and discoloured. It is not durable, but is easily workable. It is used for boxes, furnitures, scabbards, and caffins. This tree is an exceedingly useful one, due to its ornamental value.

This tree is an exceedingly useful one, due to its ornamental value.

4



A large, deciduous, spreading tree, found wild or cultivated in most parts of India. The plant sapwood is large, white, heart-wood is dark fairly durable. It is used for picture frames, sugarcanecrushers, furniture, well-curbs and wheel work. It belongs to the family Mimosaceae.



A large tree of 40 to 50 feet in height, common, wild or more often cultivated, throughout the greater part of India and Burma, commonly called the Neem (or) Margosa tree. The sapwood is grey, heart-wood red, very hard, beautifully mottled. It is strong, clean grained, and resists the attack of worms. It is much used for the construction of carts, for making agricultural implements and for furniture work due to its sanctity and durability, it is largely employed by the Hindus to make idols. It belongs to the family Meliaceae.

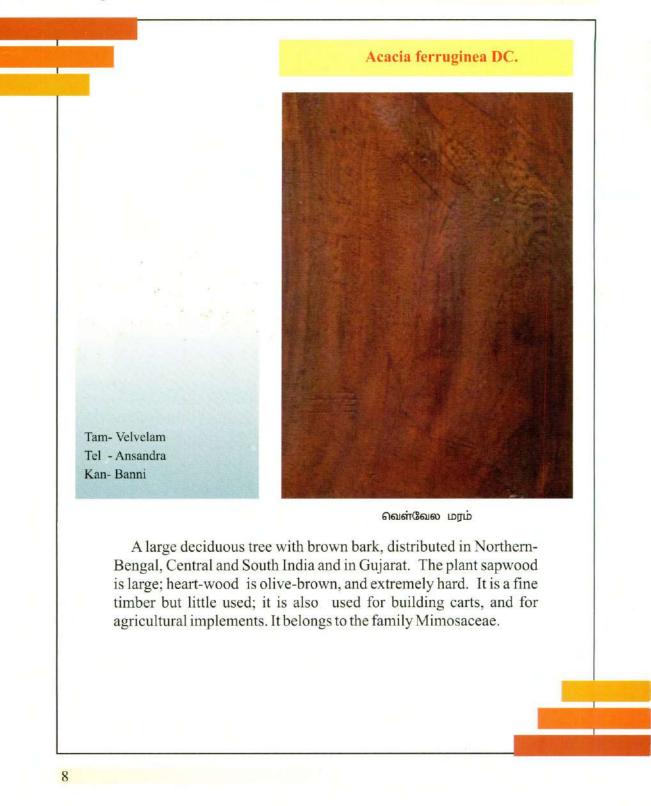
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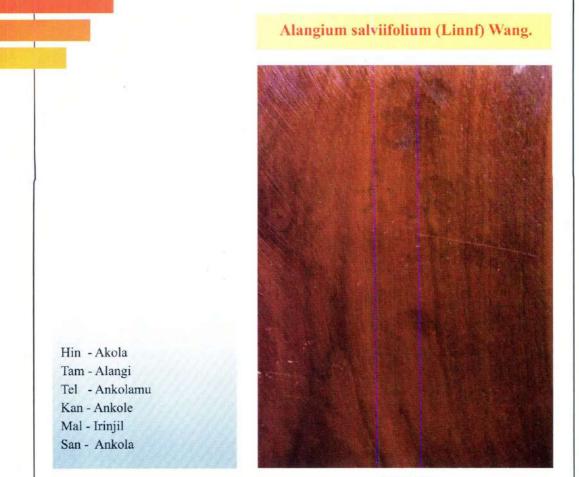


Eng -Cutch Tree, Catechu Hin - Khair Tam - Karangalli Tel - Sandra Kan - Kachu

காடுசுக்கட்டி மரம்

The plant is common in most parts of India and Burma. It is a moderate-sized, deciduous tree, with dark brown, much cracked bark, and short hooked spines in pairs. It belongs to the family Mimosaceae. It is used for making rice-pestles, oil and sugarcane crushers, agricultural implements, and for the bows, spear and sword handles and for the preparation of wheelwrights work. The wood is greatly admired for its high heating powers.

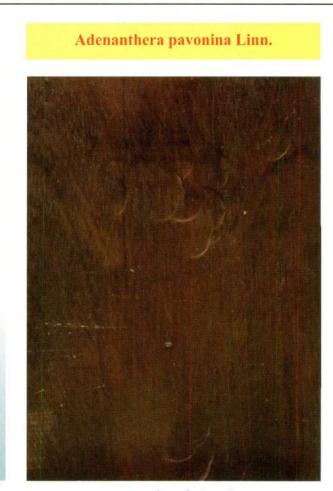




அழிஞ்சில்

A deciduous shrub or small tree found throughout India and Burma in tropical forests. It belongs to the family Alangiaceae. The sapwood is light yellow; heart-wood is brown, hard, close and even-grained, tough and strong easily worked with a beautiful glossy surface. The wood is beautiful. It is used as pestle for oilmills, wooden balls for cattle and other purposes and is valuable as fuel. Used for agricultural implements and oil mills.

9



Eng - Coral Wood, Red Wood, House wood Tam- Anikundumani, Tel - Bandi Guruvenda Kan- Manjetti San - Kunchandana

யானைக் குண்டுமணி

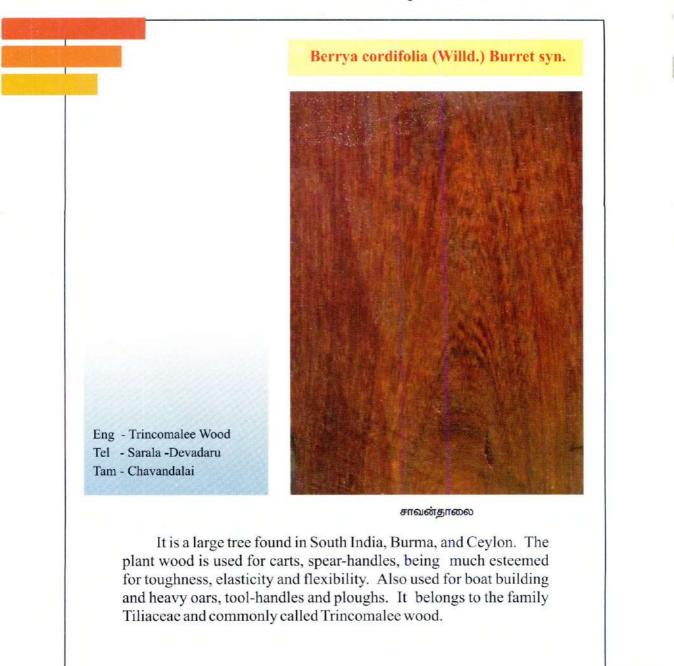
A large, deciduous tree, meet with in Bengal, South India and Burma. The plant belongs to the family Mimosaceae. The heartwood is red, hard, close-grained, durable, and strong. The timber is used in South India for house-building and cabinet-making purposes.



A small tree, native of Japan, China, Polynesia, and said also to be wild in the Martaban hill; belongs to the family Moraceae. It is commonly called as Paper-Mulberry. The wood is light-coloured, even-grained, not hard nor heavy. It is used for making paperpulps, plywood, cheap furnitures, toys, shoe heels, cigar-boxes, sports goods and packing-cases.



A tree, leafless only for a very short time. It is found throughout India and Burma, and common in the hotter and drier parts and, belongs to the family Anacardiaceae. The plant wood is greyish brown, moderately hard, with small dark-colored heartwood. It is fairly durable if kept dry. It is used for making boxes, bedsteads, bullock-yokes, doors, window-frames and tables.

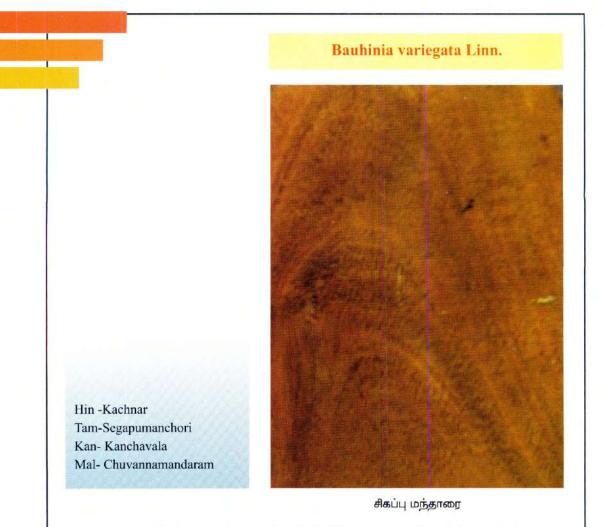




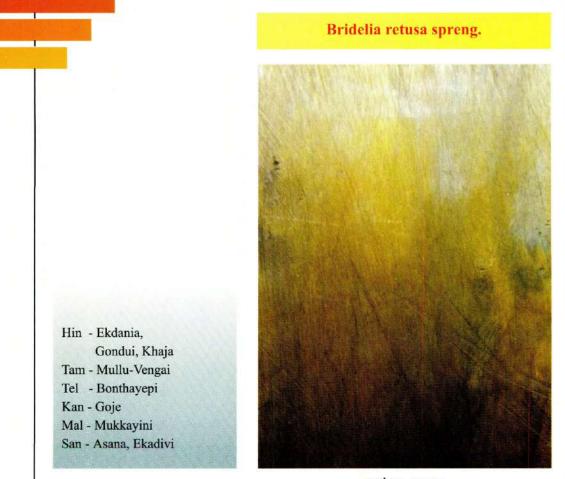
Hin -Dhak Tam-Parasa Tel -Moduga Kan-Mutthuga Mal-Palas in samatha San-Palasha

பரசே மரம்

A moderate-sized, deciduous tree, found throughout India and Burma, extending in the North-west Himalaya as far as the Jhelum. The wood is dirty white, soft, and not durable; mainly used for wellcurbs and water-scoops; also employed as a cheap board wood and for structural work. It belongs to Papilionaceae family.

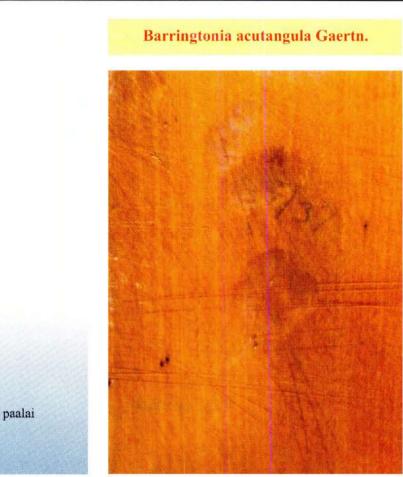


It is a moderate-sized, deciduous tree, found in the Sub-Himalaya tract and throughout the forests of India. It belongs to the family Caesalpiniaceae. The wood is grey, moderately hard, with irregular masses of dark and harder wood in the center; used for agricultural implements.



முள்ளு மருது

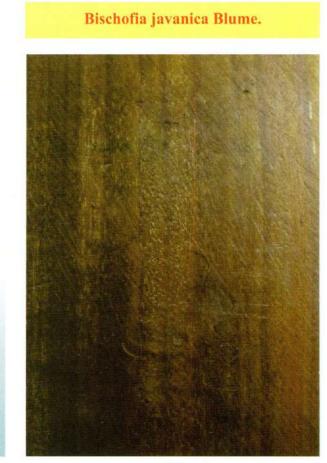
A large deciduous tree, with thorns on the bark of the young stems; distributed in Sub-Himalayan tract, from the Jumna eastwards ascending to 3,600 feet and South India. It belongs to the family Euphorbiaceae. The sapwood is small; heart-wood grey to olive brown, close-grained, durable seasons well and is moderately hard. It is used for cattle-yokes, agricultural implements, carts and buildings.



Hin -Ingar Tam-Samutthira paalai Tel -Kadapa Kan-Holekauva

சமுத்தீர பாலை

It is an evergreen tree that occurs in the Sub-Himalayan tract from the Jumna eastwards; one of the most plentiful trees in Bengal, especially near the coast. It belongs to the family Barringtoniaceae. The wood is white, shining, warps in seasoning, moderately hard, even-grained, said to be durable. It is used for boat-building, wellwork, carts, rice-pounders, and cabinet-making.

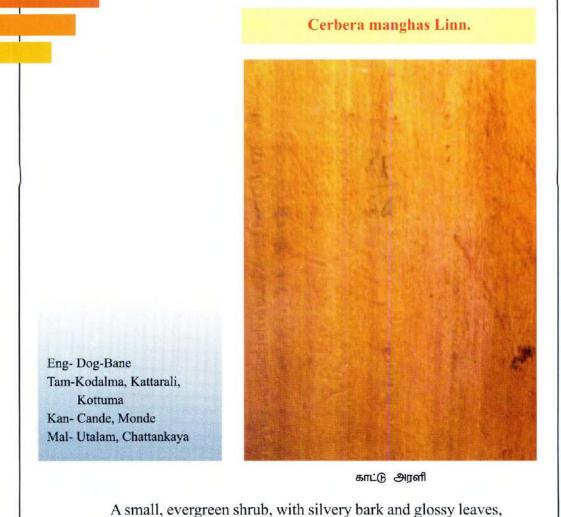


தொண்டி மரம்

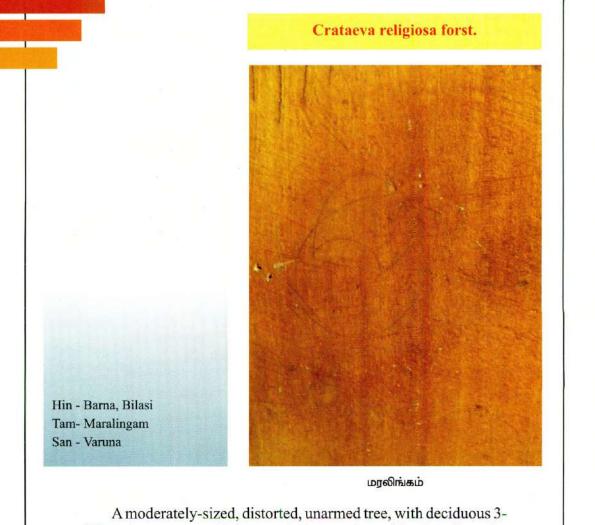
A deciduous tree met within Kumaon, Garhwali, Gorakhpur, Bengal, South India and Burma. It belongs to the family Euphorbiaceae. The wood is used for construction of bridges, house posts, rafters, etc. Also suitable for cheap pencils, tea-chests and heavy packing-case.

Hin - Paniala Tam- Thondi Tel - Nalupumushti Kan- Gobranerale Mal- Nira, Thirippu,

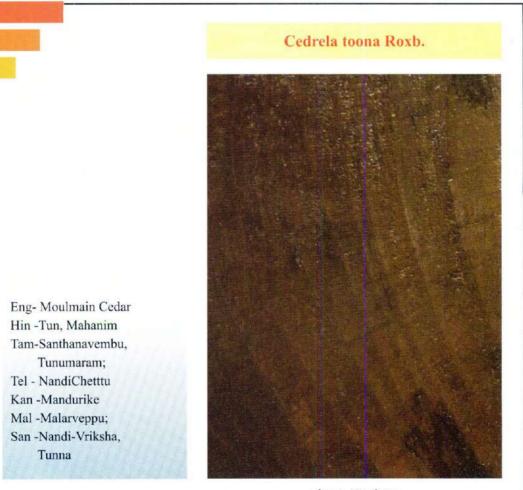
Andamansyepaduk



A small, evergreen shrub, with silvery bark and glossy leaves, cultivated in gardens throughout India, belongs to the family Apocynaceae. The wood is white moderately hard, close-grained; and is used for making incense and for the purpose of perfumery.



A moderately-sized, distorted, unarmed tree, with deciduous 3foliate leaves met with here and there under cultivation from the Ravi eastwards to Assam, Manipur and Burma. Also in central and Southern India. The plant wood is yellowish white when old turning Light brown, moderately hard, even-grained used for drums, models, writing boards, combs, and in turnery. It belongs to the family Capparidaceae.



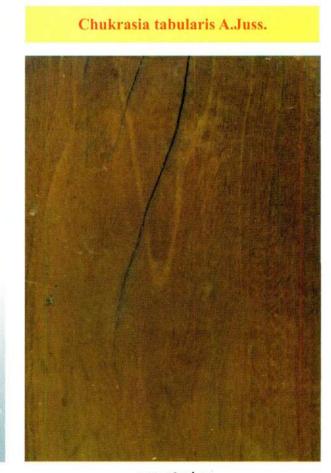
சந்தன வேங்கை

This is a large tree about 50 to 60 feet in height, growing in the tropical Himalaya from the Indus eastwards and throughout the hilly districts of Central and South India to Burma. It belongs to the family Meliaceae. The wood is brick-red, soft and shining. It is durable and is not eaten by white-ants; is highly valued and universally used for making furniture of all kinds, and is also employed for door-panels musical instruments and carvings.

Eng- Chittagong Wood Tam-Agil, Maleivembu Tel- Cittagangukarra

Mal-Akil, Malaveppu

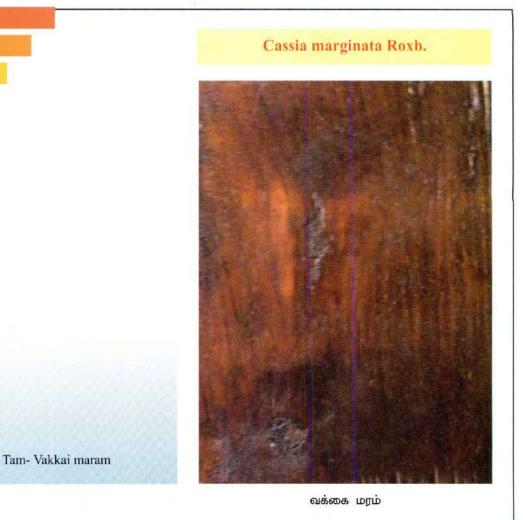
Erra-Pogada Kan-Dalmara



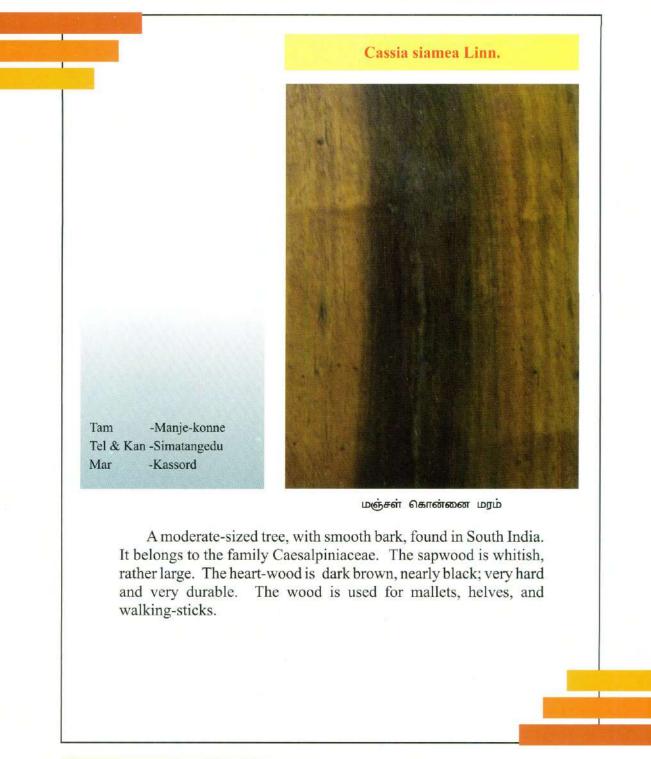
மலைவேம்பு

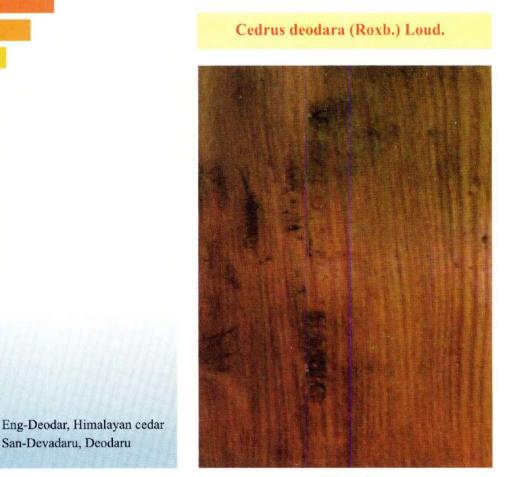
It is a tree species, belonging to the family Meliaceae and distributed in the tropical regions. The plant wood is lustrous, possessing an attractive mahogany like figure used for making high class furnitures, panelings and decorative works; also for making plywood, laminated boards, canoes and cooperage.

22



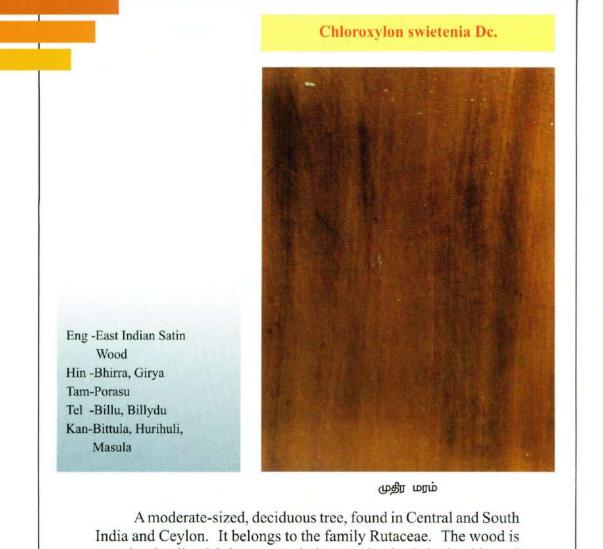
A small deciduous tree, with deeply cracked, brown bark, found in the Western Peninsula, and in Madras, Ceylon and Burma. It belongs to the family Caesalpiniaceae. The heart-wood is light brown and, very hard. The wood is well adapted for turning naves of wheels and handles of tools.





தேவதாரி

A very large and tall tree and is found in the North-west Himalaya between 4,000 and 10,000 feet. It belongs to the family Pinaceae, Division Gymnosperm. It is commonly called Deodar. The heart-wood of the plant is light-yellowish brown, scented and moderately hard. The wood is extremely durable, used for making railway sleepers, bridges, and even for fabricating furniture and shingles.



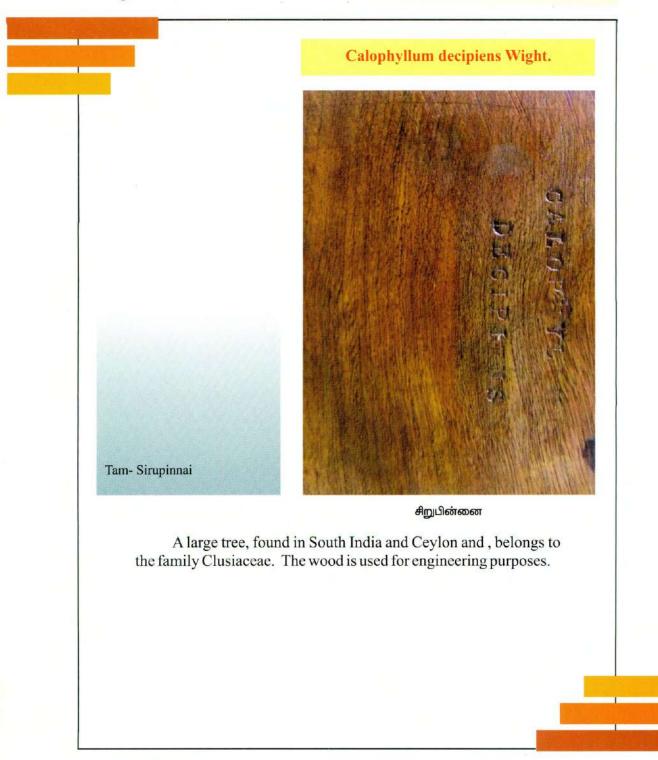
very hard, yellowish brown, and close-grained. It is durable and excellent for turning and is used for making cart-buildings, furniture and picture-frames, gun-carriage wheels.

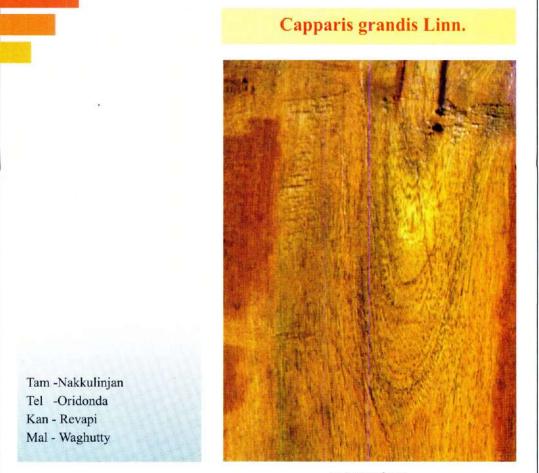


Eng - Alexandrian, Laurel Hin - Sultanachampa Tam- Punnai, Pinnay Tel - Pouna Kan- Vuma, Honne Mal- Punna

பின்னை மரம்

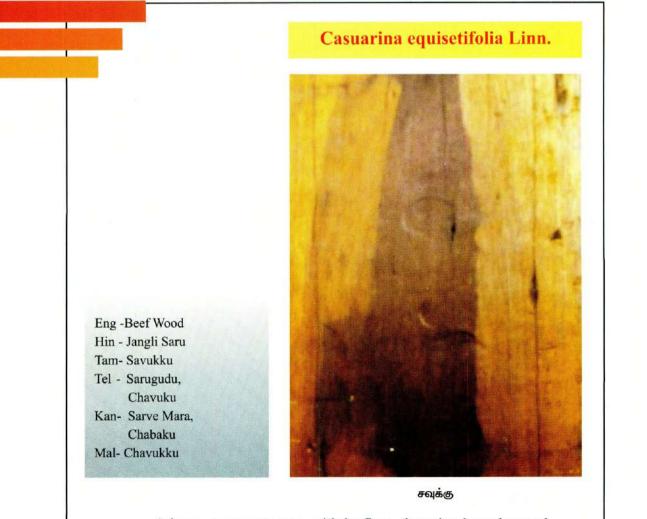
It is cultivated, especially near the sea-coast, throughout India as an ornamental tree; indigenous to the Western Peninsula, Orissa, South India and Ceylon. It belongs to the family Clusiaceae. The wood is reddish brown, moderately hard, close-grained, and used for fabricating masts, spars, railway sleepers, machinery canoes. It is used in ship-building also.



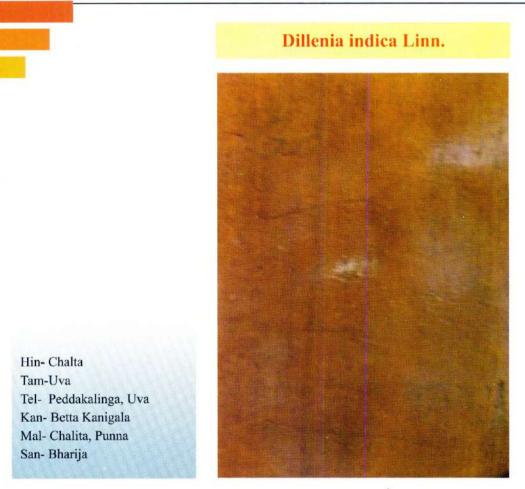


முள்கொண்டை

A small tree, distributed in the eastern part of the Deccan, the Eastern Ghats, and belongs to the family Capparidaceae. The wood is white, moderately hard, and durable; used for making plough-shares and rafters.

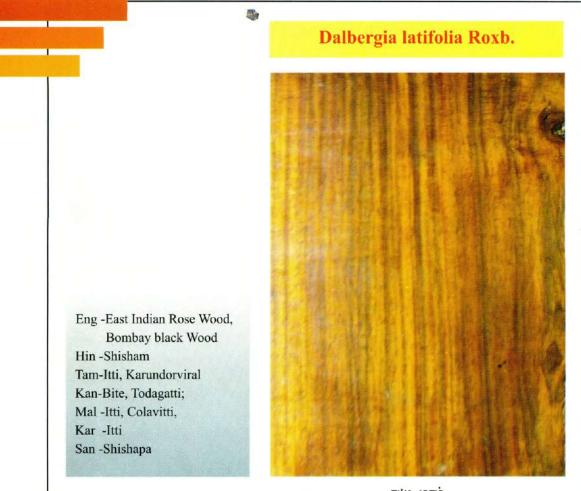


A large, evergreen tree, with leafless, drooping branches and branchlets, which are deciduous. It is cultivated all over India, except in the North Western portion of the Punjab. The wood is white, brown hard, heavy and difficult to cut; used for fabricating house posts, rafters and masts of country made crafts.



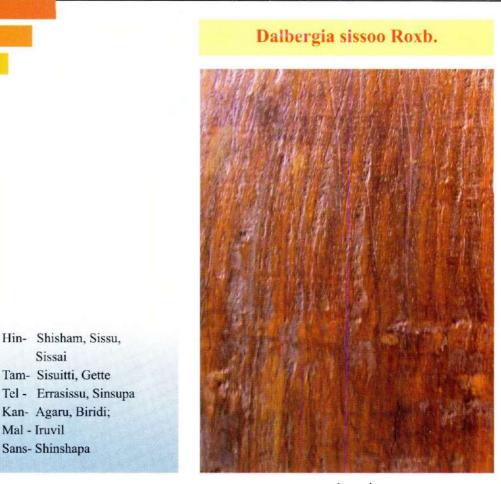
யுவா மரம்

A large evergreen tree occurs in Bengal, Central and South India and Burma. It belongs to the family Dilleniaceae. The wood is red with white specks, close-grained; moderately hard. It is used to make helves and gunstocks and in construction.



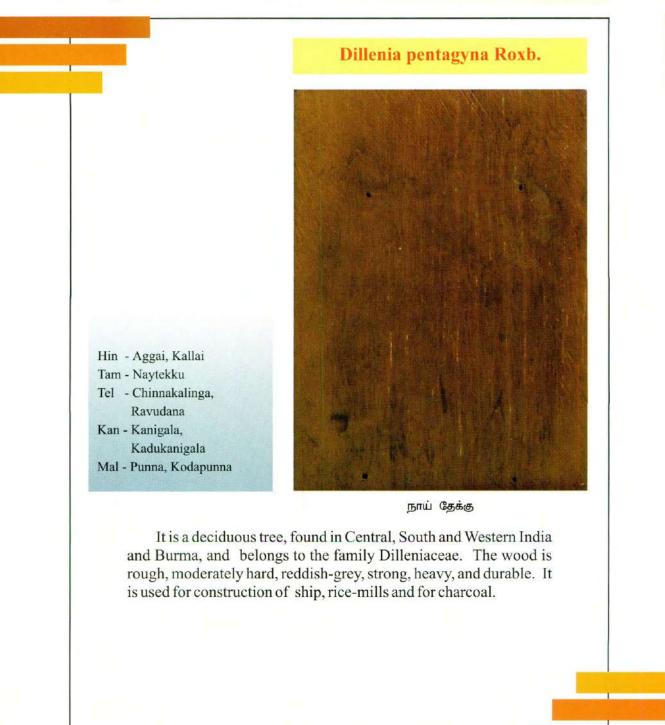
ஈட்டி மரம்

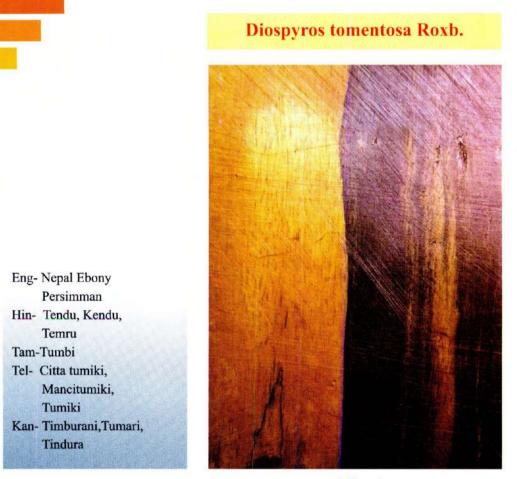
A deciduous tree, attaining a large size in South India and is also found in Eastern Bengal and Central India. It belongs to the family Fabaceae. The timber is one of the most valuable one in India and is strong, very hard, close-grained, and of a purple black in colour. It takes a beautiful polish and is reckoned as the best furniture wood. It is employed for making cart wheels, agricultural implements, gun-carriages and is good for carving and fancy works and is used for making the handles of knives, Kukris and other arms.



நூக்கமரம்

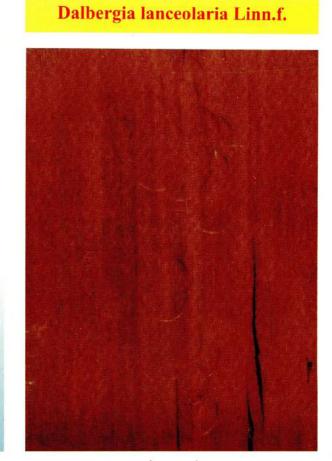
A large deciduous tree of the Sub-Himalayan tract from the Indus to Assam, ascending to 2,000 feet, and belongs to the family Fabaceae. It is commonly called Sissoo. The wood is very durable, seasons well, and does not warp or slip. It is highly esteemed for all purposes where strength and elasticity are required. The wood is employed for making high class furnitures and cabinet wood; also used for crafting musical instruments and carvings.





தும்பி மரம்

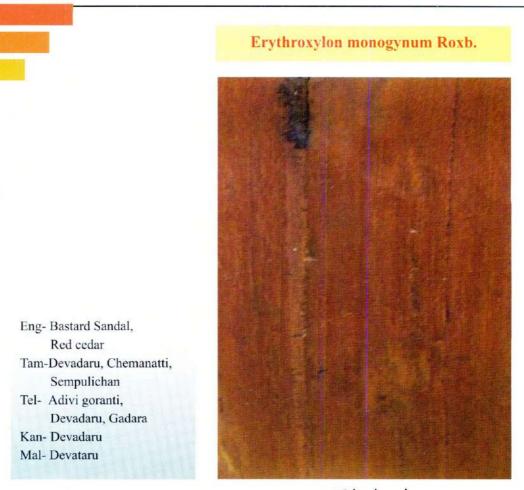
A small crooked tree, found in the northern parts of Bengal, Bihar, extending as far north as to the Siwalik tracts of the Punjab. It belongs to the family Ebenaceae. The wood is black, hard and heavy, used by agriculturists for making ploughs and the woodwork of their houses.



Hin - Takoli, Bithua Tam-Erigai, Nalvellangu Tel -Errapaccari, Peddasapara Kan -Belaga, Kanaga Mal -Mannavitti, Pulari

நால்வெலாங்கு

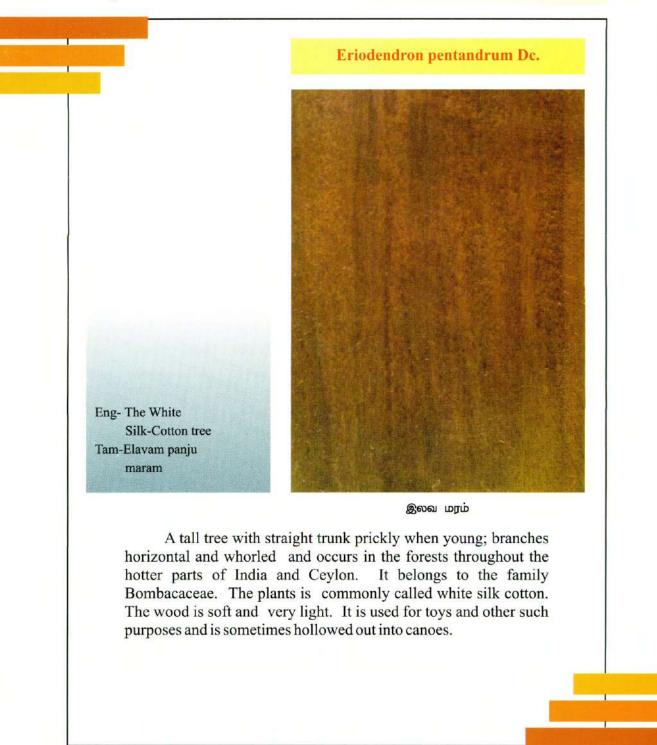
A deciduous tree of the Sub-Himalayan tract from the Jumna eastwards, ascending to 2,500 feet; also met with in Central and South India and Bombay. It belongs to the family Fabaceae. The wood is white, moderately hard, not durable; useful for building purposes.

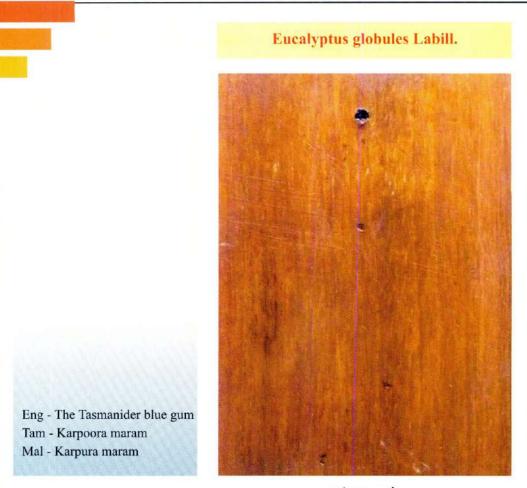


காட்டுச் சந்தனம்

A shrub (or) small tree of the hilly tracts of the Western Peninsula; also found in Chingleput, North Arcot, Tanjore, and Tinnevelly districts of South India; belongs to the family Erythroxylaceae. The wood is very hard with a pleasant resinous smell, and is used for turnery; it is the source of a tar used for vessels as a wood preservative.

37

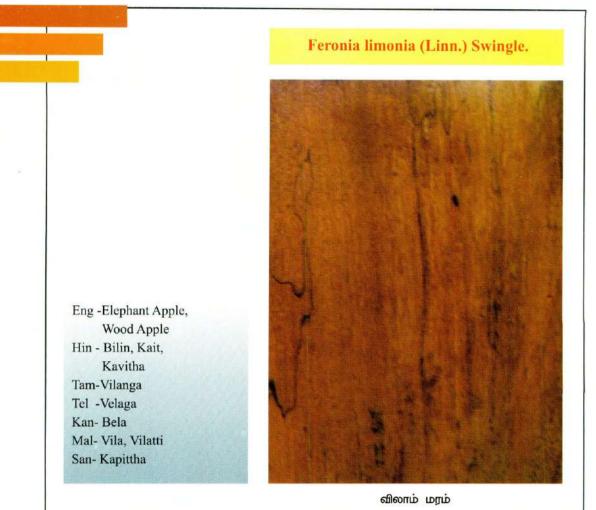




கற்பூர மரம்

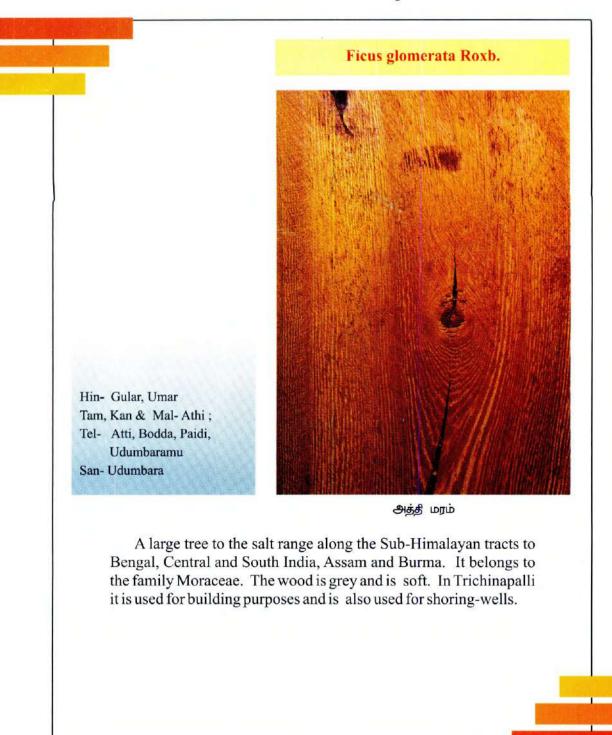
It belongs to the family Myrtaceae. A loft tree, gregarious in Victoria and South of Tasmania. Its introduction into India has met with complete success on the Nilgiris. The wood is strong, tough, and durable and extensively used in ship-building, agricultural implements and fabrication of sleepers and telegraphic poles.

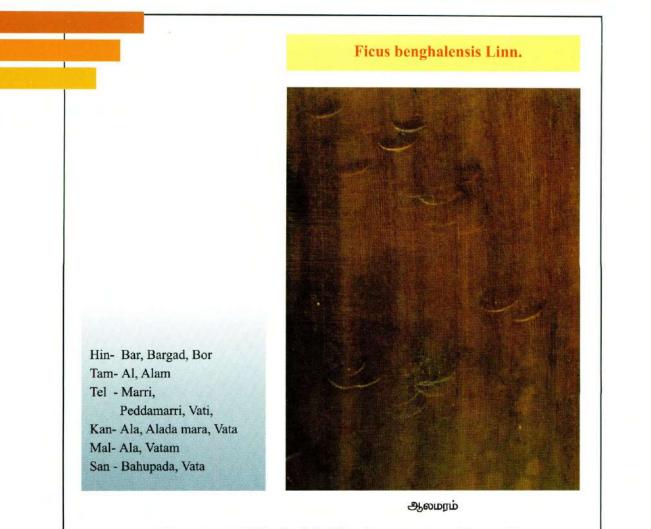
ornamental carvings.



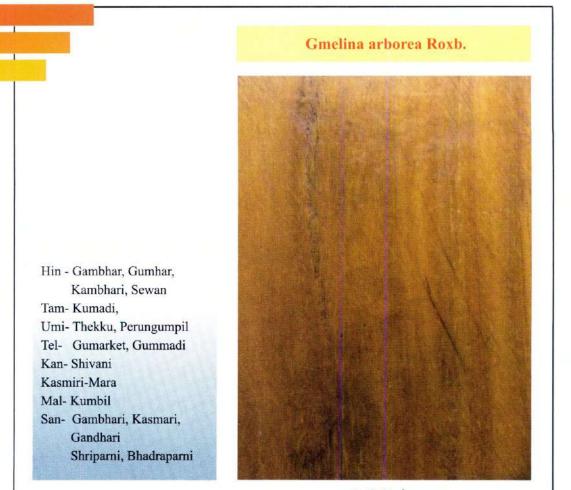
A medium-sized tree, found throughout the greater part of the plains of India. It belongs to the family Rutaceae. The plant wood is yellowish-white, hard, used for making naves of wheels and oil crushers and for crafting shoe lasts, pen holders, rulers and

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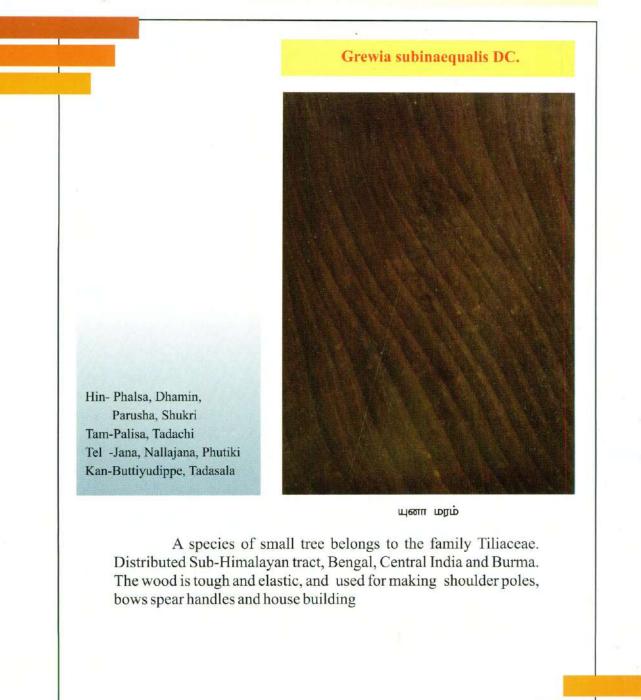


A large tree, wild in the Sub-Himalayan tracts and lower slopes of the Deccan, planted throughout India. It is commonly called Banyan tree and belongs to the family Moraceae. The plant wood is grey and moderately hard; used for making well-curbs. The wood is stronger and is used for tent-poles, cart-yokes, and banghy-poles.



உமி தேக்கு

A large deciduous tree, sometimes attaining the height of 60 feet and met with in the sub-Himalaya tract from the Chenab eastwards and also throughout India and Burma. It belongs to the family Verbenaceae. The wood is yellowish, grayish (or) reddish-white, with a glossy lustre, used for making planks, venetian blinds, tight cooperage, and printing blocks, carvings, and musical instruments.

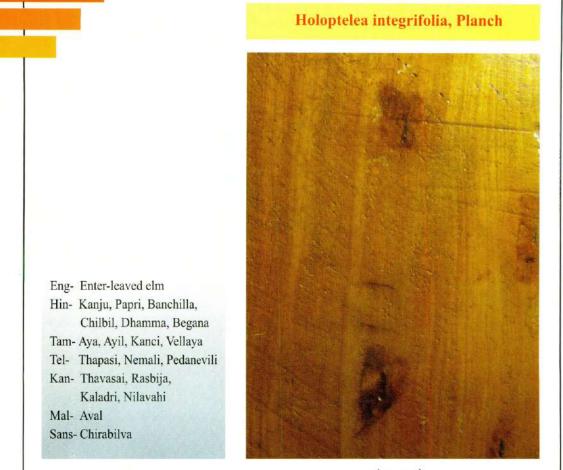




Tam-Ilapongu Kan- Nai Irupu, Haiga, Kalbovu, Hiribovige, Unni Mal- Pongu

இலபொங்கு

A large tree of the Western Peninsula from the Konkan southwards. It belongs to the family Dipterocarpaceae. The wood is very valuable and is used for making beams, piles in construction work and brush-backs.



அய்ய மரம்

A large, spreading, deciduous tree, met with on the outer lower ranges of the Himalaya and Travancore in South India and belongs to the family Ulmaceae. The wood is light, yellowish grey and moderately hard. It is employed for building purposes, and cart making. It is much utilized for fuel and making charcoal.



Sans- Anjan Tel - Yepi, Epe, Naraepe Kan - Kamara Karachi Acca Tam- Acha maram, calam, katulugu

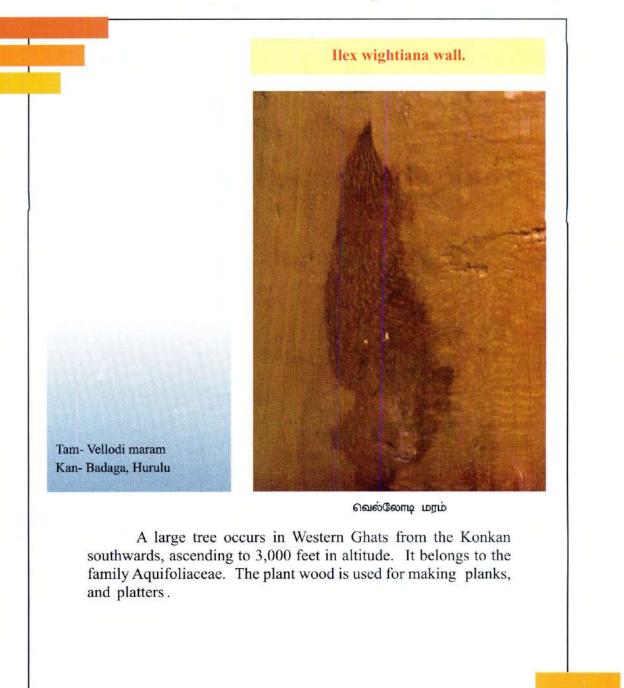
அச்சமரம்

A tall deciduous tree, reaching a height of 100 feet found in dry forests of South and Central India. It belongs to the family Caesalpiniaceae. The plant sapwood is small, white, heart-wood; is extremely strong dark, and is durable used for making mine-props, pontoons, oars and parquet floors making. It is also used for turning, carving and ornamental works.

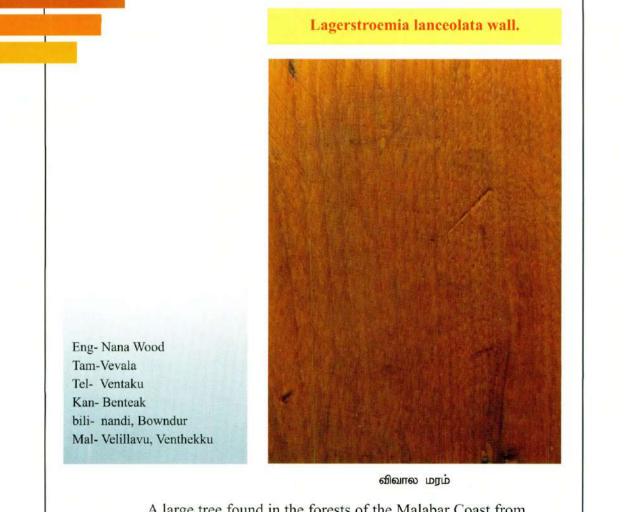


வெள்ளைக் கடம்பு

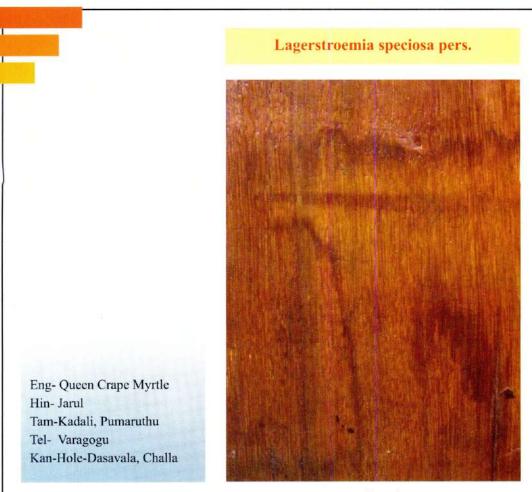
A large deciduous tree 30 to 40 feet high, distributed in dry hills at the base of the Western Himalaya and Central India, Anamalays hills. It belongs to the family Rubiaceae. It is employed for making agricultural implements, scabbards, grain measures, palanquins, and toys.



49

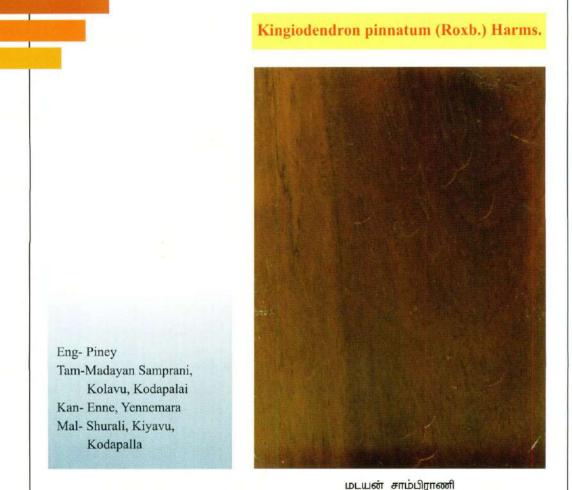


A large tree found in the forests of the Malabar Coast from Bombay to Travancore. It belongs to the family Lythraceae. The wood is red, moderately hard, straight and elastic and is much used in construction, for ship-building, in making coffee cases and furniture.



கட்லி மரம்

A large deciduous tree of Eastern Bengal, Assam, and the West Coast. It belongs to the family Lytharaceae. The plant wood is shining, light red, hard; used for fabricating cooperage, leather cutting blocks, boot lasts, match-boxes and splints. It is commonly known as pride of India.



மடயன் சாமப்ராணா

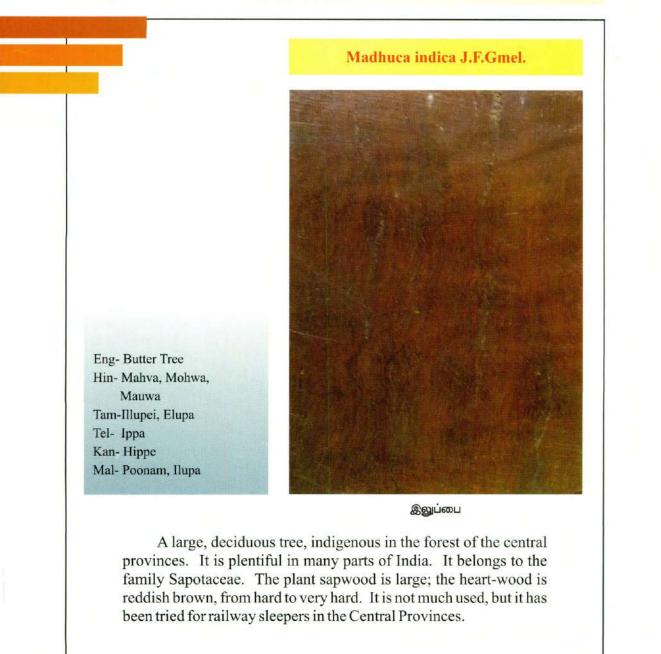
It is a tree species found in tropical regions and belonging to the family Caesalpiniaceae. The wood is used for beams, rafters, battens, ceiling boards, flooring and furniture; also used for making cordite cases, bowls and croquet balls, billiard tables and cuehandles.



Tam-Venkottei, Vengalkattei Kan-Banate, Balpale, Bilihalasu, Sattale, Hottale Mal-Venkotta, Venkadavan

வெம்பலகை

Evergreen tree of the Western Coast from the Konkan to Cape Comorin. It belongs to the family Celastraceae. The plant wood is reddish-grey, moderately hard, and close-grained. It is used for making panels of railway carriages, plywood and veneers, tea chests, bobbins, and splints.

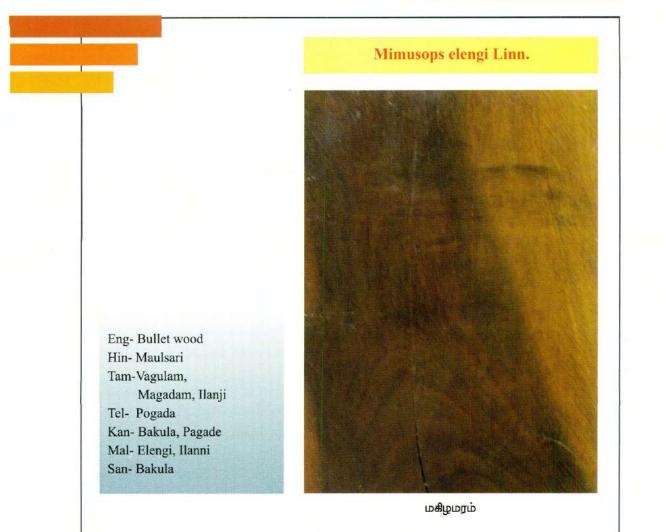




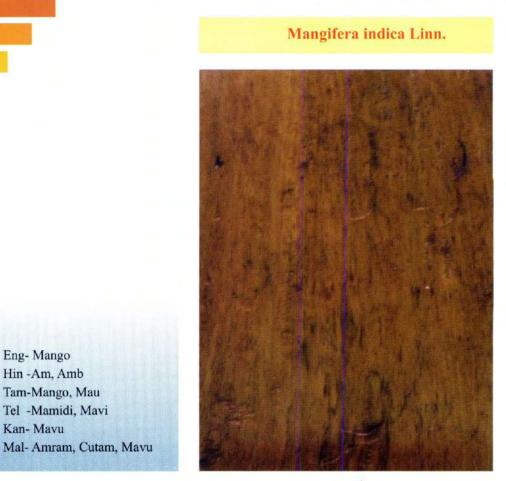
Tam- Malaivembu Tel - Munnatikaraka Kan- Hebbevu, Karibevan San - Arangaka

மலைவேம்பு

A large handsome, deciduous tree, met with in the Eastern Himalaya, South India, Ceylon and Burma. It belongs to the family Meliaceae. The sapwood of the plant is grey; the heart-wood is reddish-white, soft, light, not easily attacked by white-ants, strong and durable. It is often used by planters for building purposes and employed for making ceilings and out-riggers of boats. It is also recommended for crafting teaboxes and similar purposes.



A large evergreen tree, frequently cultivated in India and Malay Peninsula. It belongs to the family Sapotaceae. The sapwood is large, white and very hard; heart-wood is red. It is used in housebuilding, for making boats, cart shafts and cabinet work.

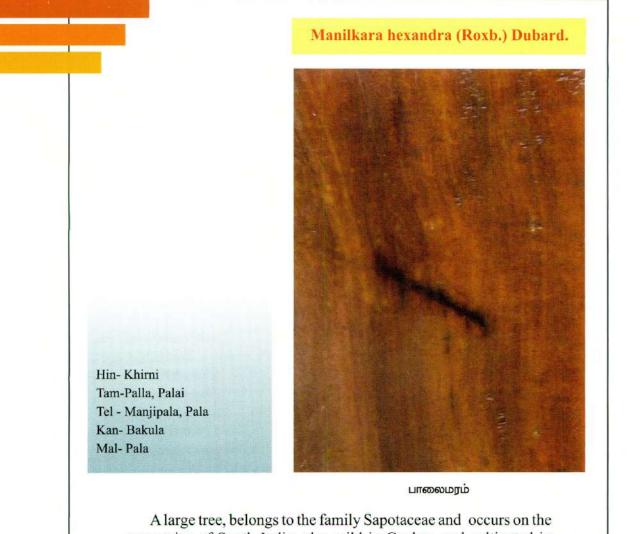


மாமரம்

A large, glabrous tree, found in Tropical Himalaya and is also cultivated throughout India. It belongs to the family Anacardiaceae. The wood is grey, coarse-grained, and soft. It is used for making planks, doors, carts, rafters and window frames.

Eng- Mango Hin -Am, Amb Tam-Mango, Mau Tel -Mamidi, Mavi

Kan- Mavu



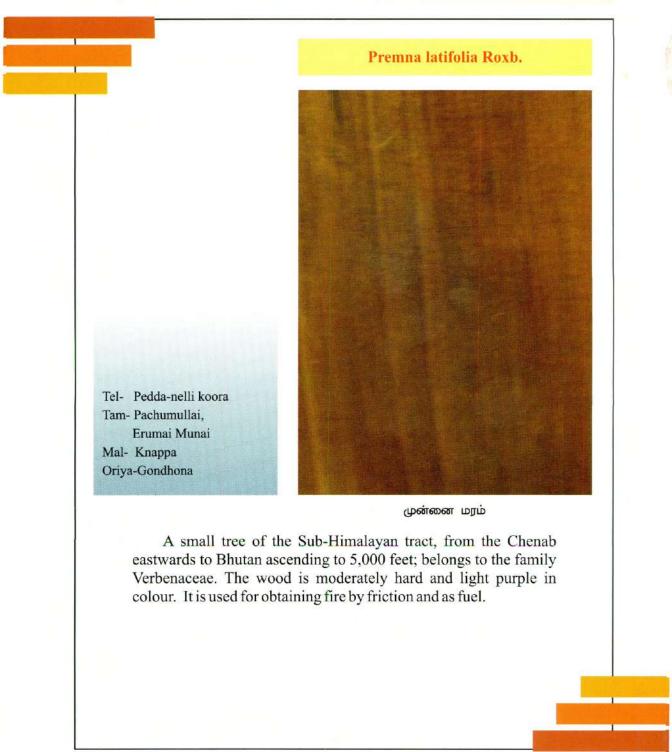
A large tree, belongs to the family Sapotaceae and occurs on the mountains of South India; also wild in Ceylon, and cultivated in North-West India. The heart-wood is red very strong, tough, and used for sugarmill beams, oil-presses, house posts and is excellent for turning.

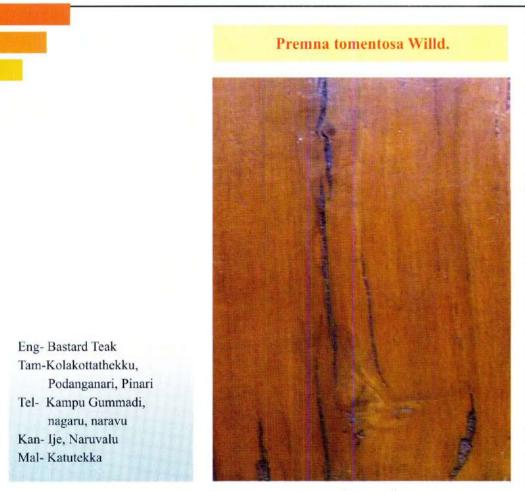
58



உதீராவேங்கை

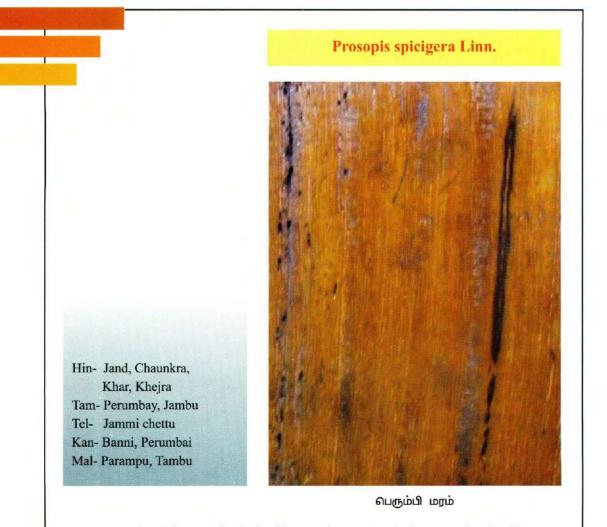
A large deciduous tree belongs to the family Fabaceae distributed in Central and South India. The wood is valued for ornamental work, and making of posts, beams, furniture, cart wheels, agricultural implements and boats.



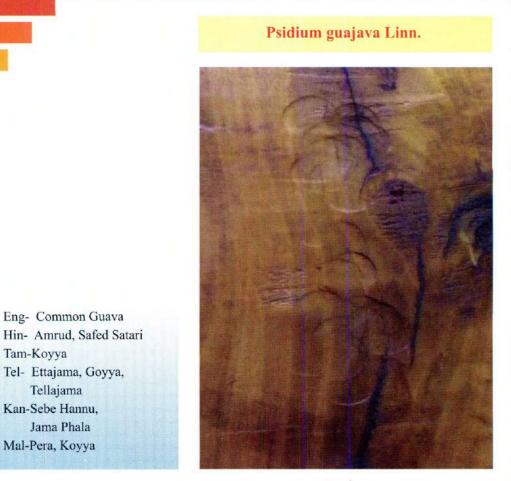


முன்னைமரம்

A moderate-sized deciduous tree belongs to the family Verbenaceae and is common in South India, Burma and Ceylon. The wood resembles teak and used for house building, furniture, combs, weaving shuttles, and rafters and temporary structures and for carving, turnery and fancy works.

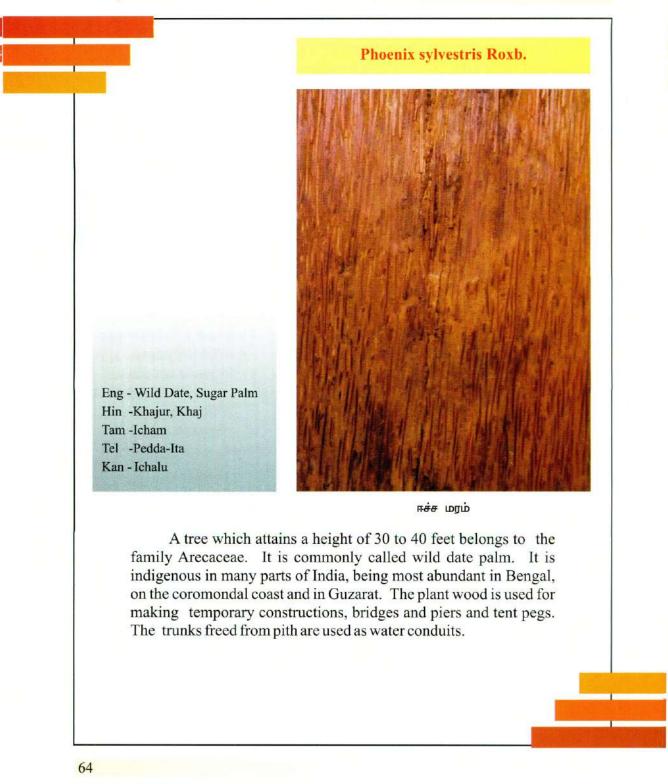


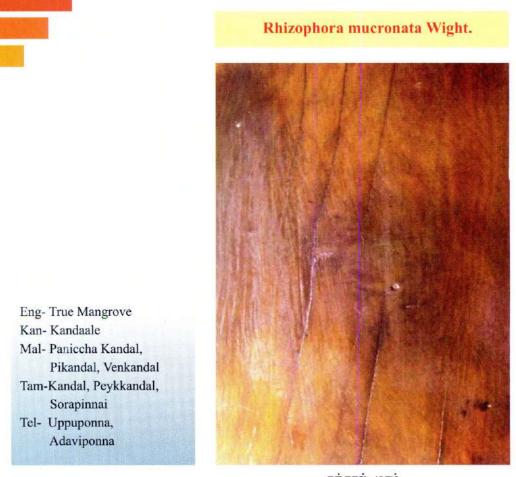
A moderate-sized, deciduous, thorny tree belongs to the family Mimosaceae. It is found in the arid dry zones of Deccan, Punjab, Sind and Rajaputana. It is easily raised from seed. The wood is used for house-building, railway cross ties, furniture, and turnery; also used for making fence posts, hubs of carts.



கொய்யா

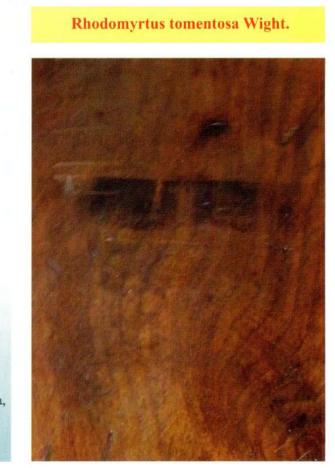
A small tree belongs to the family Myrtaceae. It occurs in natural and is also largely cultivated throughout India. Wood used for engraving, spear-handles and lac-turnery.





கந்தால் மரம்

It is a true mangrove, and a small evergreen tree, found in tidal, muddy shores throughout India, Burma, and the Andaman Islands. It belongs to the family Rhizophoraceae. The wood is very durable and is used for making buffers, mine and pit-props, brake blocks, stakes for fish-traps, and mallet heads.

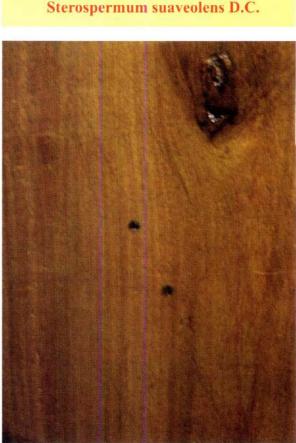


Tam & Mal-Thaontay, Koratta, Thavattu Kan- Tavuti, Guddade Nelli

Eng- Downy Rosemyrtle,

அழிஞ்சிமரம்

A shrub resembling the common myrtle belongs to the family Myrtaceae. It is found in the higher mountains of South India. The wood is white with a pink heart-wood, close-grained, but easily workable and is much employed in turnery, and for crafting many small articles, and cabinet work.



பாதீரி மரம்

A tree 36 to 60 feet height belongs to the family Bignoniaceae. It is found throughout the moister India, from the Himalayan Terai to Travancore and in Ceylon. The sapwood is large, grey hard; the heart-wood is small, yellowish brown, and very strong. It is fairly durable and easy to work and is much valued for building purposes and makes excellent charcoal.

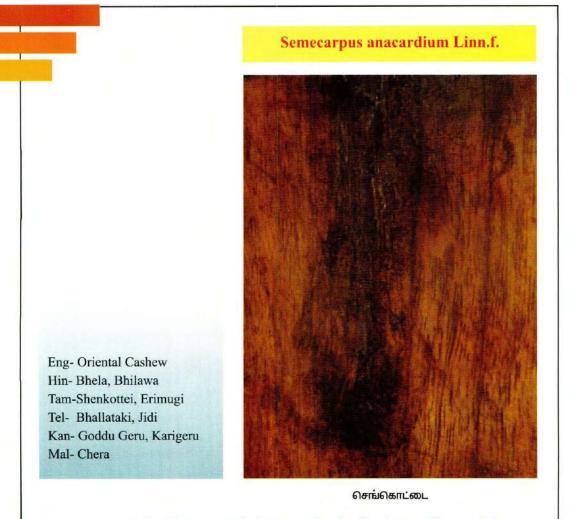
Hin -Paral, Padiala, Padaria

Tel -Goddalipulusu, Kalagora, Kuberakshi, Patali

Vulunantrimarada, Kavi

Tam-Padri

Kan-Hudaybilla,



A deciduous tree belongs to the family Anacardiaceae.It is found throughout the hotter parts of India as far east as Assam. The wood is greyish-brown in colour. Often with yellow streaks. It is full of an acrid juice which causes swelling and irritation of the skin when handled; timber-cutters for this reason object to sell it unless it has been ringed for some time previously. It cracks in seasoning and is not durable; suitable for cheap and light furniture.

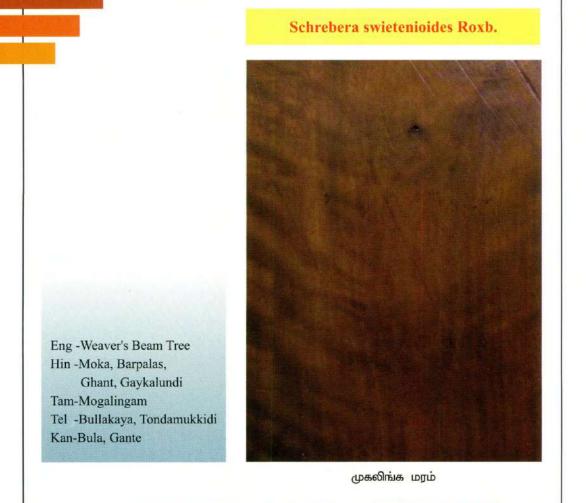
68



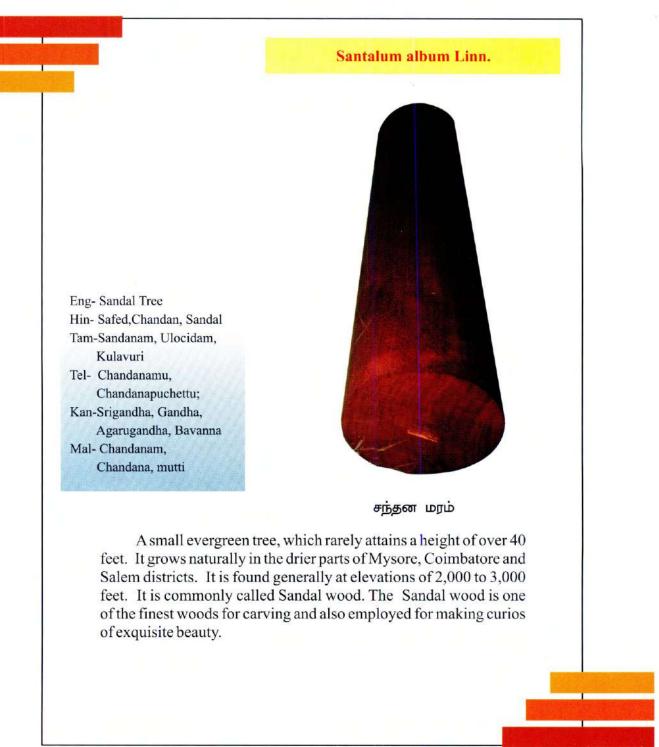
காட்டு மாமரம்

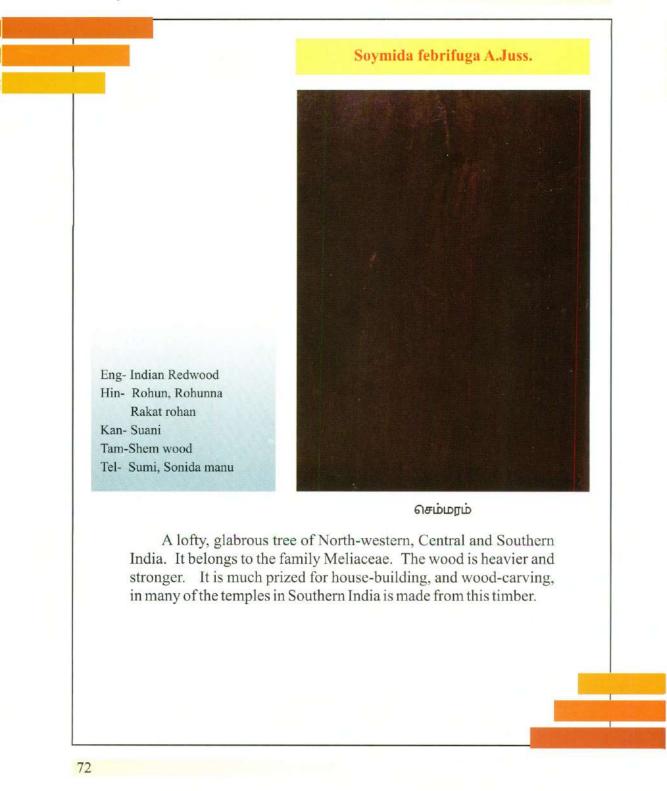
A small, deciduous tree, found wild or cultivated throughout India, and belongs to the family Anacardiaceae. The wood is soft, light-grey and employed for packing-cases, tea-chests, floats, canoes, boats, making non-ornamental plywoods and fairly good for unbleached wood-pulp.

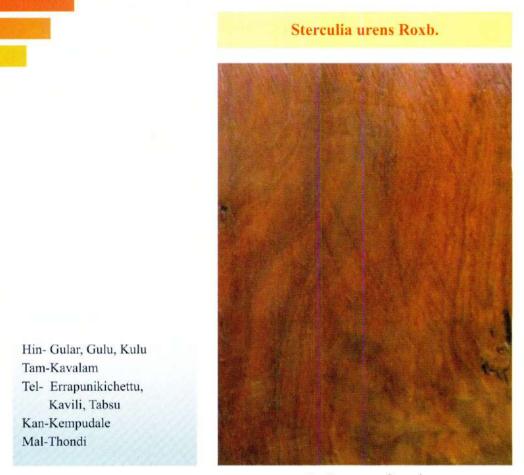
69



A deciduous tree 40 to 50 feet high, found in the tropical Himalaya and in Central and Southern India. It belongs to the family Oleaceae. The wood of the plant is brownish grey, hard, polishes well and is durable and is used for turning and for making combs and weaver's beams. It makes excellent cart wheels.







வெள்ளை புடலி மரம்

A soft-wooded tree of North-western India, Assam, and the Eastern and Western peninsula. It belongs to the family Sterculiaceae. The wood is very soft, reddish brown in colour and is used for making native guitars and children's toys, also as fuel.



காட்டு மரம்

A large, handsome tree, common about villages in South Indian and Ceylon; belongs to the family Sapindaceae. The wood is yellow in colour and hard and is employed for house-building and in the construction of carts and also for making a variety of small articles such as combs boxes, etc.

San-Arishta Hin-Reetha

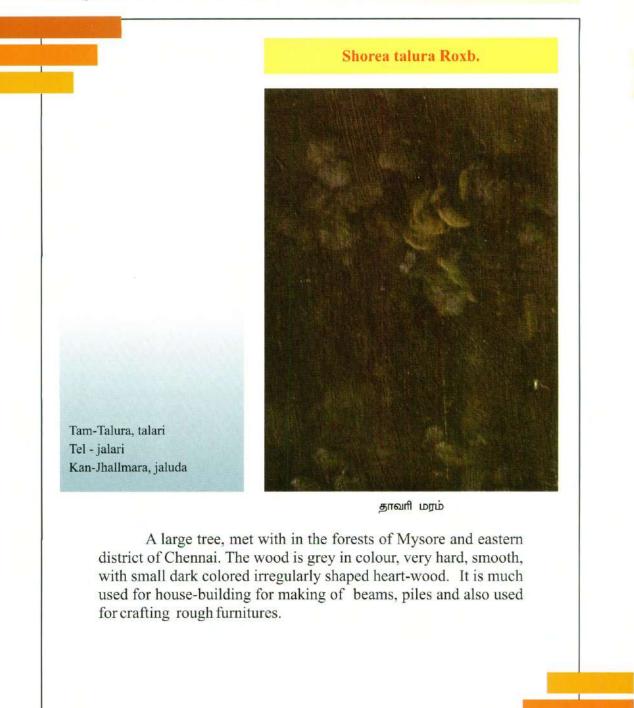
Kan-Antawala

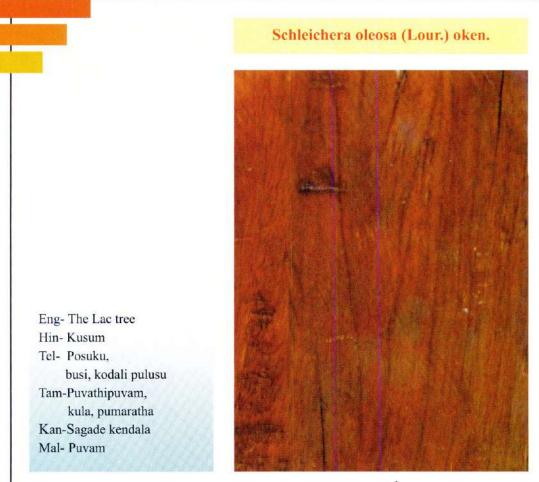


Hin- Sal, Sakhu, Shal Mar- Ral Tel- Gugal, guggilamu Tam-Kungiliyam Kan- Kabba Mal- Maramaram

குங்கீலியம்

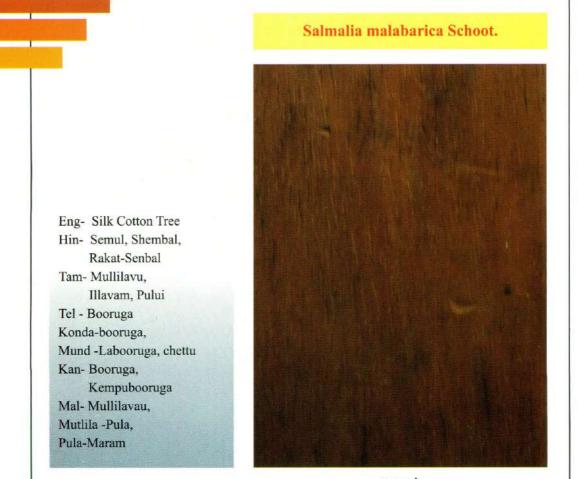
A large, gregarious tree belongs to the family Dipterocarpaceae. It is found in base of the Tropical Himalaya and in the Eastern district of Central India. The timber is most extensively used in Northern India. It is a constant request for making piles, beams, planking and railing of bridges, for gun-carriages and for the boxes of carts. The Sal wood which ranks with teak and deodars is one of the best sleeper woods.





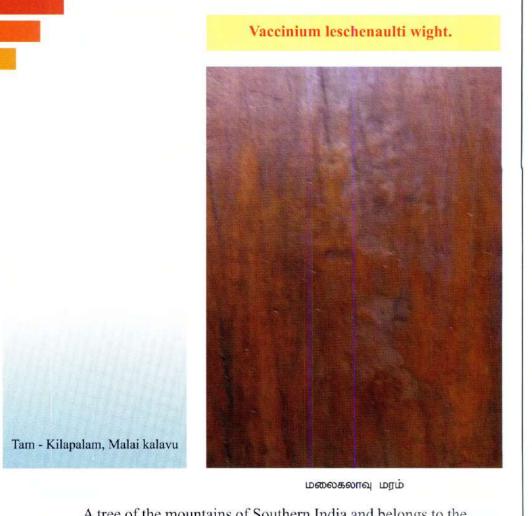
பூ மரம்

A large deciduous tree, found in dry forests of the Sub-Himalayan tract and throughout Central and Southern India; belongs to the family Sapindaceae. The wood is very hard, strong, and durable and is much used by Natives for the manufacture of articles and is also employed in making pestles, the axles of wheels, and the shafts, tool handles and for the screw rollers of sugar mills.

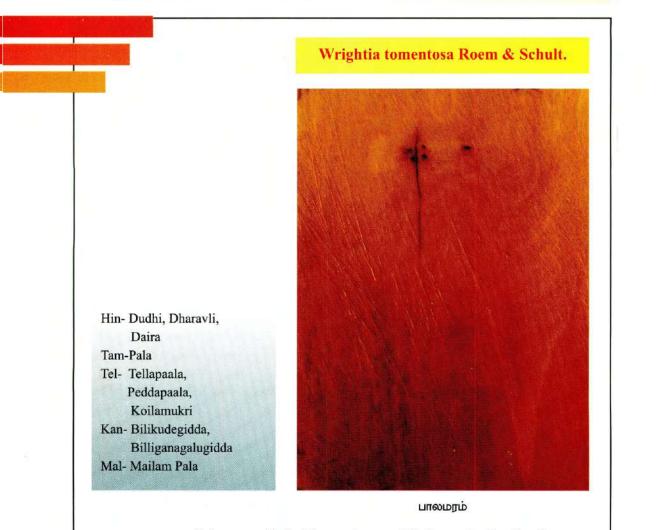


இலவம்

A very large, deciduous tree, with branches in whorls, spreading horizontally, and the stem with large thorny buttresses, and it belongs to the family Bombacaceae. It is found throughout the hotter forests of India. The wood is white when fresh cut, turning dark on exposure; very soft and perishable; no heartwood. It is not durable and is used for planking and for making packing-cases and tea-boxes, toys, scabbards, fishing-floats, coffins and the lining of wells.



A tree of the mountains of Southern India and belongs to the family Vacciniaceae. The wood may be used for carving, turnery and turnery after seasoning.



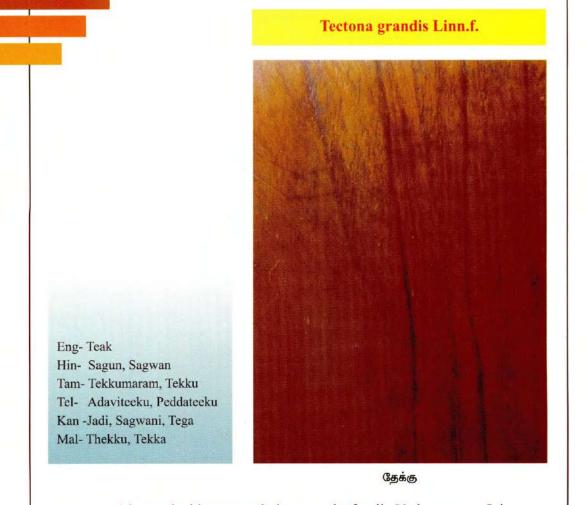
It is a small deciduous tree and belongs to the family Apocynaceae. It is distributed throughout the tropical India. The wood is yellowish-white, moderately hard and used for making non-ornamental timber of second class and combs turnery.



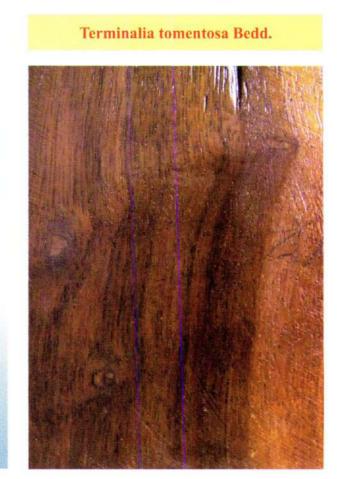
Eng- Chebulic myrobalan Hin- Hava Tam-Kadukkai Tel - Karakkai

கடு<mark>க்</mark>காய்

A large deciduous tree, abundant in South and Northern India and belongs to the family Combretaceae. The wood is brownishgrey, with a greenish (or) yellowish tinge, and fairly durable. It is used for making furniture, carts, agricultural implements, and for house-building, and has been tried for sleepers as well.



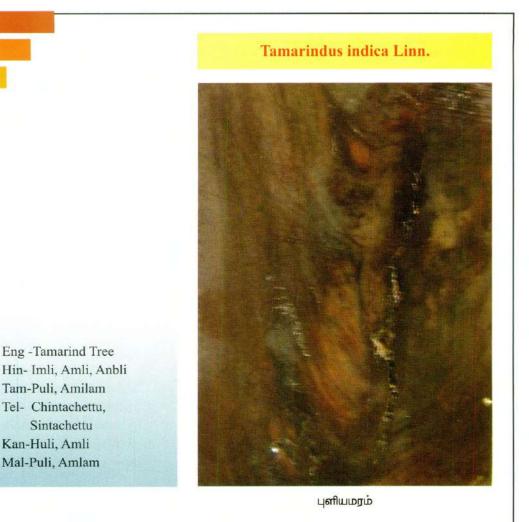
A large, deciduous tree belongs to the family Verbenaceae. It is indigenous to both Peninsular India, in the eastern drier parts of Java, and Sumatra. It is commonly called Teakwood. The wood is very durable, resistant to fungi and is used for making wagons and railway carriage, and is popular in marine construction works.



Hin- Asan, Sain, Saj Tam- Karramarda Tel- Tani Kan- Sadada

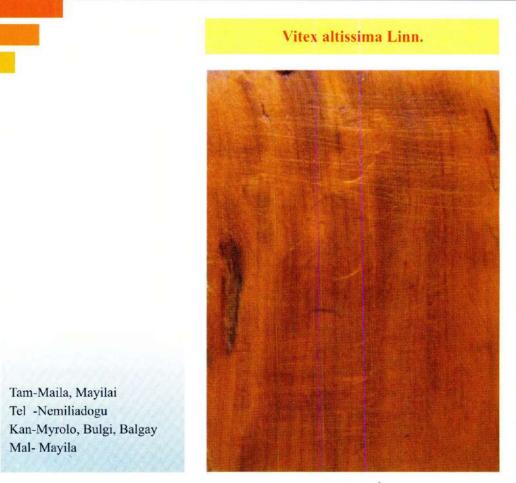
கருமருது

A large, deciduous tree, which attains a height of 80 to 100 feet. It is common throughout the moister regions of India. It belongs to the family Combretaceae. Its wood is used for constructional work agricultural implements, for beams, joints, rafters and window frames.



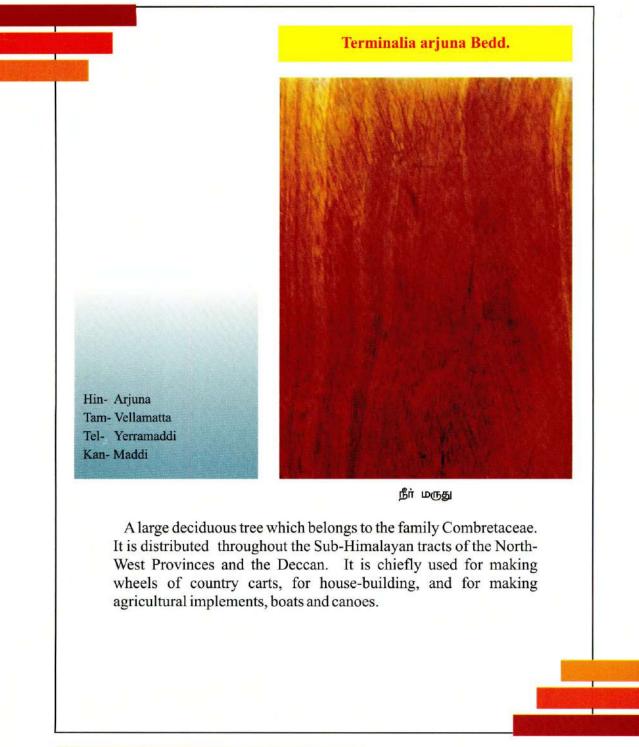
A large, evergreen tree, which grows to a height of 80 feet with a circumference of 25 feet, and belongs to the family Caesalpiniaceae. It is cultivated throughout India and Burma. Its timber is highly prized though extremely difficult to work and is used chiefly for making wheels, mallets, planes, furniture and ricepounders.

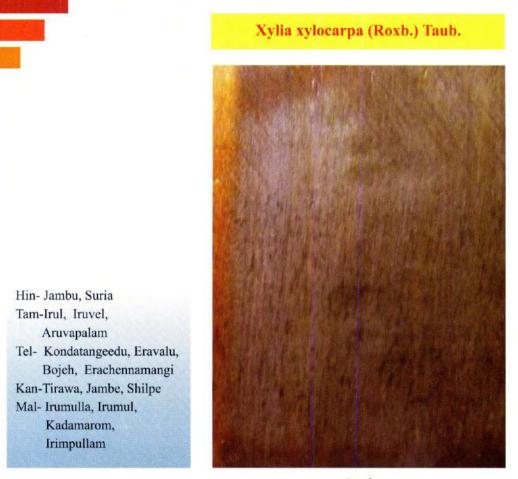
84



மைலாமரம்

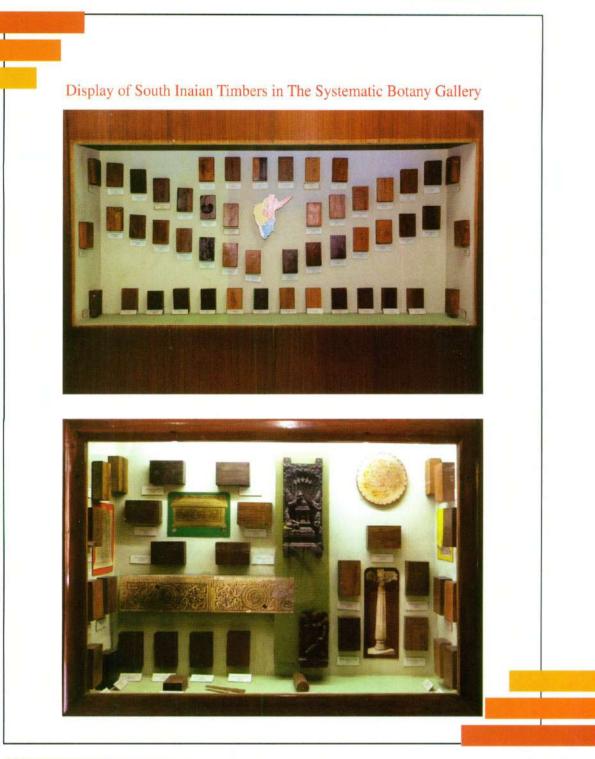
A large tree, South India and Ceylon; it belongs to the family Verbenaceae. The wood is grey with a tinge of olive brown, hard, and close grained. It is one of the most valuable timber in South India. It is much used for building purposes, for cabinet works, and for making carts.



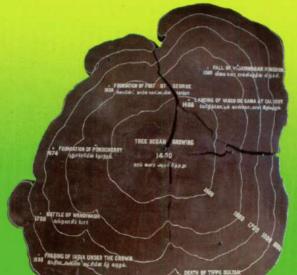


இருள்

It is a tree species belongs to the family Mimosaceae. Found in tropical regions. It is commonly called Irul tree. This is one of the most important timbers used for sleepers without pressure treatment. It is also used for boat making ships and widely used for agricultural implements.



Display in the Systematic Botany Gallery



Cross Section of Teakwood

Cross Section of Rose wood

Abies smithiana THE HIMALAYAN SPRUCE

N.W. Himalayas-Rai, Rau, Riar; Kumaum-Rhai,

An elegant tree, growing rapidly in moist localities not under too much shade; met with in the North-West Himalaya between 7,000 and 11,000 feet.

The wood is white, with a reddish or brown tinge and a little harder. The wood is extensively used for making rough furniture, packing cases, planks and sometimes for shingles.

Abies pindrow Royle.

HIMALAYAN SILVER FIR

Kashmir-Badar, Drewar, Tung

A lofty, evergreen tree, met within the Himalaya belongs to the Natural order Pinaceae. The wood is white, and soft. The inner zone of each annual ring is soft and spongy which yields light wood, and is used for packing cases; also used for ceilings and floor boards, roofings.

Acacia melanoxylon, R.Br. THE AUSTRALIAN BLACK WOOD

A large tree, introduced on the Nilgiris in India since 1840 and now completely naturalized, it belongs to the family The wood is hard and durable; the heart-Mimosaecae wood is dark-brown, and beautifully mottled, soft, shining and even-grained. It is used for cabinet work, coach-building, railway carriages, and agricultural implements. It takes a fine polish, and is considered as almost equal to walnut.

Acacia arabica willd,

Eng-Indian Gum Arabic; Tam-Karuvelei; Tel-Nallatumma; Kan-Jaali, Gobhei; Mal-Karivelan

An erect shrub (or) tree, with straight spines, distributed all over India. It grows plentifully near villages and on waste lands, especially on black cotton soil. It belongs to the family Mimosaceae.

The Sapwood is large, whitish; heartwood pinkish white, it is very durable if well seasoned, used extensively for wheels, well-curbs, sugar and oil presses, agricultural implements and tool handles; in fact, for all purposes for which a bent hard wood is required.

Adina cordifolia Hook, f, & Bth.

Hin-Haldu; Tam-Manja Kadamba; Tel-Pasupukadamba; Mal-Manjakadamba

A large deciduous tree, found in the sub-Himalayan tract. The wood is yellow, moderately hard, and even-grained. No heart-wood, and no annual rings are found. It seasons well, takes a good polish, and is durable. It is good for turning and is extensively employed in making of furniture, agricultural implements, opium boxes, and tables.

Adina cordifolia, Benth & Hook.f.

Hin-Haldu; Tam-Manja Kadamba; Tel-Pasupukadamba; Kan-Arsintega, Yettega, Mal-Manjakadamba

This is a large handsome deciduous tree found all over India, and it belongs to the family Rubiaceae. The wood is yellow, moderately hard, and evengrained. It has no heart-wood, no annual rings. It seasons well and takes good polish and is durable. It is good for turning and is extensively employed in construction, and making of furniture, agricultural implements, opium boxes, and it is one of the best Indian woods for floorings panelings and for fabricating railway carriages.

Aegle marmelos, correa THE BAEL FRUIT TREE

Hin-Bel; Tam Vilvam; Tel-Maredu; Mal Vilvam Kan Bilpatre; San-Bilva

It is a small tree, deciduous, glabrous tree, with straight strong, auxiliary spines. It is found in cultivation all over India and in wild, and it belongs to the family Rutaceae.

The wood is yellowish white, hard with a strong aromatic scent when freshly cut; the wood is not durable, and it is readily eaten by insects; it is used in construction, for the pestles of oil and sugar mills, and also for other parts of carts and agricultural implements.

Anogeissus latifolia, wall.

Hin-Dhawa, Dhaura; Tam-Vellay naga; Tel-Chirimanu, Yella maddi; Kan-Dinduga; Mal-Marukinchiram

A large, handsome tree, found throughout India,. It belongs to the family Combretaceae.

The wood is grey in colour, hard, shining, smooth, with a small, purplishbrown, irregularly shaped, extremely hard; heart-wood and sapwood in young trees and branches are yellow in colour. The Annual rings marked by darker lines. It is used for making axe-handles, poles for carrying loads, cart-axles, furniture, agricultural implements and in ship-buildings.

Aquilaria agallocha, Roxb. ALOEWOOD (or) EAGLEWOOD

Hin-Agar; San-Agaru

It is a large evergreen of the family Thymelaeaceae. The wood is white, soft, even- grained, scented when freshly cut, in the interior of old trees are found irregular masses of harder and dark coloured wood. The wood is largely used for making jewel-cases, ornaments, rosary beads, and inlay works.

Bauhinia vahlii W & A.

Hin-Maljan; Tel-Adda

It is an arborescent (or) scandent plants belonging to the family Leguminosae in the sub-order Caesalpiniaceae. This is the most abundant and most useful, of Indian climbing Bauhinias.

The wood is porous, broad, irregularly-broken concentric layers alternating with red, juicy, bark-like tissue; the pith is cross-shaped. The foliage is very dense and the stems do great damage to the trees they climb over.

Bambusa arundinacea, Willd.

Eng-Thorny Bamboo; Hin-Bans; Tam-Mungil; Tel-Bongu-Veduru,Pente-Veduru; Kan-Biduru; Mal-Mungil

It is the spiny Bamboo of Central, South and West India.

A common bamboo, found in Central and South India and also cultivated. The stems are tall, green, spinescent, growing in clumps of 30 to 100 each, attaining a height of 30 to 50 feet; walls of the clum thick, cavity small. It belongs to the family Poaceae.

This bamboo is of good quality and strong, and is used for making floats and structural purposes.

Bambusa spinosa, Roxb.

Eng-The spiny Bamboo of Eastern India.

It belongs to the family Poaceae.

A native of Bengal, Assam and North-Eastern division of South India and cultivated in other parts of India also.

The timber is beautiful, and very elegant species with spiny culms. It is used for making construction purposes.

92

Bambusa tulda, Roxb.

(1) We have a start of the s

Hin-Peka; Beng-Tulda

This is the common bamboo of Bengal. It belongs to the family Poaceae. It is a source of paper pulp. The wood is strong and the culms are used for making roofing, scaffolding, mats and other purpose. Used for construction work, matmaking and basketry.

Bombax malabaricum, DE.

SILK COTTON-TREE.

Hin- Semul, Sembal, Pagun; Tam- Mullilavu, Illavam, Pulai; Tel- Booruga, Konda- Booruga; Kan-Booruga, Kempu, Booruga, Mal- Mullilavau, Mullila-pula, Pula-maram San- Salmali

A very large, deciduous tree, with branches in whorls, spreading horizontally and the stem with large thorny buttresses, met with throughout the hotter forests of India; it belongs to the family Bombaceae, The wood is not durable; no heartwood; no annual rings, white when freshly cut, turns dark on exposes. It is used for making planks, packing-cases tea-boxes, toys, scabbards, fishing, floats, coffins and linings of wall.

Bosswellia serrata Roxb.

THE INDIAN OLIBANUM TREE

Hin-Salai; Tam & Tel-Parangisambrani; Kan-Madi; Mal-Guggulumaram, Parangisabraani; San-Kunduru, Sallaki

A moderate-sized gregarious tree; it belongs to the family Burseraceae. The wood is rough, white when freshly cut, darkens on exposure. Used for making news print and other types of paper. It is also used for making plywood, runners, hard boards, cheap furnitures, and sheath of knives.

Buxus sempervirens Linn. THE BOXWOOD TREE

Hin- Chikri, Papri; Punjab-Shamshad

An evergreen shrub (or) small tree scattered in different parts of the Himalaya and belongs to the family Euphorbiaceae. The wood is yellowish white, hard, smooth, very close and even-grained. It is used for making engravings, turnings, carvings and making mathematical instruments, small boxes to contain butter, honey, tinder, snuff and it is carved into combs

Bruguiera gymnorhiza Lan.

Tel-Thudda Ponna; Tam-Sigapukokandam

Small evergreen tree, of the shores and tidal creeks of India; belongs to the family of Rhizophoraceae. The heart-wood is small, red, extremely hard, used for making firewood, house-posts, planks and articles of native furniture.

Carallia integerrima.

Tel-Karalli; Kan-Andipunaru; Mal-Varanga

An evergreen tree with thin, dark-grey bark, found in the Eastern and Western moist places of India. The plant sapwood is perishable; the heart-wood is red, very hard, durable, and is employed for furniture making , and in cabinet-making, planking and rice-pounders.

Cedrela serrata, Royle.

Punjab-Drawa

A sparsely-branched tall tree, with palm like cluster of pale green leaves growing so gregariously as to exclude all other trees found in the North-Western Himalaya; it belongs to the family Meliaceae. The heart-wood is light red, even, but open-grained and is fragrant. Its annual rings are distinctly marked by broad belts of numerous large pores. Domestically used for hoops sieves, for bridges, and for many such purposes.

94

Calophyllum tomentosum, wight.

Eng-Poonspar Tree; Tam- Kattupinnai Pongu, Purnapamorom; Kan-Kuve, Bobbi; Mal-Kattupunna, Malam punna, Punnappai

A large, tall, evergreen tree, often growing to a height of 150 feet, met with in the evergreen forests of the western coastand belongs to the family Guttiferae. The wood is light red, shining, cross-grained, and moderately hard. It is used for making masts and spars. The timber is also used for building and bridge work.

Cupressus torulosa. Don. HIMALAYAN CYPRESS

Punjab- Devidiar, Galla

It is a large tree growing on the outer ranges of the North-West Himalaya. The heart wood is lightbrown, with darker steaks, very fragrant; it is moderately hard and has been much used for building purposes and sometimes used for beams, it belongs to the family Pinaceae.

Dalbergia lanceolaria, Linn

Hip-Takoli, Bithua; Tam-Erigai, Nalvellangu; Tel-Errapaccari, Peddasapara; Kan-Belaga, Kanaga; Mal-Mannavitti, Pulari

A deciduous tree, distributed cosmopolitan in the tropics. It belongs to the family Papilianaceae, sub family Fabaceae. The wood is white, moderately hard; not durable; no heart-wood. The wood is used for making the handles of tools and small agricultural implements.

Dendrocalamus giganteus, Munro.

A species of bamboo (or) arborscent grasses; stems attaining a height of 100 feet and often 26 inches in girth. This belongs to the family Poaceae.

This is one of the largest of bamboos. It is much used for posts and rafters in rural house-building.

Dendrocalamus longispathus, Kurz.

Beng-Khang

This species is found in the all tropical forests of the world. The stems grow 40 to 60 feet in height. This belongs to the family Poaceae. The stems are employed for making rafters, mats, baskets, tent pole, water-pipes, musical instruments and in rayon industry.

Diospyrous melanoxylon Roxb.

Eng- Coromandel Ebony Persimmon; Tam-Karai, Karundumbi, Tumbi; Tel-Manicgata, Nallatumki, Tumki; Kan-Abanasi, Bale, Tumari

A large tree, attaining a height of 60 to 80 feet, sometimes seen as a shrub. Roxburgh mentions it as a native of woody mountainous countries in India. This belongs to the family Ebenaceae.

The wood is hard, of a light-pink colour, with irregular shaped masses of black ebony in the center. The ebony is jet black with purple steaks, extremely hard, pores and medullary rays difficult to distinguish. It is used for making shoulder poles and carriage shafts and the ebony for all proses of fancy-work and carving.

Diospyros ebenum, Koenig.

Eng-Ebony Persimmon; Hin-Ebans, Abnus; Tam-Tumbi, Karunkali; Tel-Nallavaiiudu, Nalluti; Kan-Karemara; Mal-Kora, Mushtumpi, Vavari

A large tree of the Central India and it belongs to the family Ebenaceae. The wood is grey, with irregularly-shaped masses of jet-black ebony near the centre, frequently with lighter-coloured streaks. The wood is very hard, used for turnery and ornamental carving, and rulers.

Dodonaea viscosa. Linn.

Hin-Sinatha, Aliar; Tam-Velari; Tel-Bandedu; Kan-Bandara; Mal-Unnataruvi

An evergreen shrub, met with in the North-West Himalaya from the plains up to 4,500 feet, and in South India ascending to 8,000 feet attaining the size of a small tree; it belongs to the family of Sapindaceae. The heartwood is extremely hard and close-grained, dark brown, with an irregular outline. It is used for carving, turning tool handles and walking-sticks.

Elaeagnus latifolia, Linn.

Eng-Bastard Oleaster; Tam-Kolungai, Kulari; Kan-Hittele, Hunaseballi; Mal-Kayalampuvalli

A small evergreen tree (or) shrub, often scandent, widely distributed throughout the hilly parts of India. It belongs to the family Elaeagnaceae.

The sap-wood is narrow and the heart-wood is dark brown, porous and soft. It is used as fuses for match-locks.

Ehretia aspera Willd.

Tel-Tella Juvi; Mar-Kupta, Datrangi

A small shrub found in the Northern India. This belongs to the family Boraginaceae. The wood is greyish white, hard, tough, durable and used for building purposes and for making agricultural implements.

Ehretia laevis, Roxb.

Hin-Chamror, Koda, Datranga, Darar; Tam-Addula; Tel-Paldatam, Peddapulmera, Pogari; Kan-Kappura, Adak, Bagari; Mal-Chavandi

A moderate-sized tree common throughout India. It belongs to the family Boraginaceae. The wood is greyish white, hard, tough and durable and is used for building purposes.

Erinocarpus nimmoaus, Grah.

Mar-Chitra, haladi; Kan-Kadu bende

A tree with large yellow flowers found in Deccan parts of India. belongs to the family Tiliaceae.

The wood is soft and used for yokes and rafters.

Eugenia jambolana, Lam.

Eng-Black plum; Hin-Jaman, Jam; Tam-Neredam, Naval, Sambal; Tel-Neereedu; Kan-Nerale; Mal-Naval, Perinnaral

A medium-sized tree, found in wild (or) cultivated over the greater part of India. It belongs to the family Myrtaceae. The wood is reddish-grey, rough, moderately hard, darker near the centre; no distinct heart-wood. It is fairly durable. It is used for making agricultural implements and carts, also for wellworks as it resists the action of water.

Euonymus crenulatus Wall.

It is a small tree, common in hilly parts of South India, and belongs to the family Celastraceae.

The wood is white, very hard and close-grained. It is suitable for making spindles, carving and turning and also is substituted for boxwood.

Fagraea obovata, wall.

An evergreen tree, often scandent (or) stem-clasping found in peninsular India and belongs to the family Loganiaceae. The wood is hard and durable.

Gardenia gummifera, Linn.

Hin-Dikamali; Tam-Kambilippicin, Dika-Malli; Tel-Manchibikki, Cittamata, Tella-Manga; Kan-Cittubikke, Kambimena, Dikkemalli

A tree belonging to the natural order Rubiaceae and found in Central and South India. The wood is yellowish-white in colour, hard, close-grained and serve as a substitute for box-wood.

Gardenia latifolia, Aiton.

Eng-Boxwood Gardenia; Hin-Papra, Paphar, Banpindalu Tam- Kumbay, Perungambil; Tel-Pedda Bikki, Peddakaringuva, Gaiger; Kan-Kalkambi, Adavibikke

A small deciduous tree, met with in the dry hilly districts of India. This belongs to the family Rubiaceae. The wood is white, with a yellowish tinge, close and fine grained. It is easy to work and durable and has been recommended as a substitute for box-wood and is also employed by the Natives to make combs. Used also for engraving and making of toys.

Gelonium multiflorum, A.Juss.

Hin-Ban naringa; Tel-Surugata, Pindemaredu

A small glabrous, evergreen tree found in India and Ceylon and belongs to the family Euphorbiaceae. The wood is white, and is fit only for house-posts.

Gyrocarpus jacquini, Roxb.

Hin-Zaitun; Tam-Tanakku, Kadavai Karamanikkay, Teppam, Munuvu; Tel-Tanuku, Nallaponaku; Kan-Kadubende, Pollika

A tall deciduous tree common in South India up to an altitude of 1,000 feet and distributed through the tropics of the whole world. It belongs to the family Hernanditaceae. The wood is grey, soft, and very light. It is used in South India to make boxes and toys.

Glochidion neilgherrense.

Kan-Banavara; Nilgris-Hanikay

An evergreen tree found in the forests of North-West India and also in Malabar. It belongs to the family Euphorbiaceae. Wood is hard and durable, employed for turning and cabinet works.

Gnetum scandens, Roxb. Assam- Mameilet

A lofty dioecious climbing shrub, met with in the tropical Himalaya, and also in the hills of the Deccan from the Konkan to the Nilghiris. It belongs to the family Gnetaceae. The wood is dark-brown, soft, coarsely fibrous, porous, rather heavy, but of no use except possibly for rough cordage.

Hemicyclia sepiara, wight & Arn.

Tam-Virai; Tel-Bira; Kan-Hira

A rigid much-branched shrub, or low tree, with a curiously fluted stem. The wood is hard, close-grained, resembling box wood. It is employed to make axe handles.

Heritiera minor.

Beng & Oriya- Sundri

A gloomy-looking tree, abundant in the gangetic plain, and along the shores of the Eastern Peninsula. It frequents in the tidal forests. It belongs to the family Sterculiaceae.

The wood is brown in colour strong, tough and durable. It is employed much in the manufacture of boats, piles of bridges, house posts, rafters and other articles.

Homalium tomentosum, Bth.

The large deciduous tree, growing to a height of 80 to 90 feet and found in parts of North-East India. The wood is brown, with dark-coloured heart-wood, very hard, heavy and close-grained and is, employed for making the teeth of harrows, and also in furniture making. It belongs to the family Samydaceae.

Kydia calycina, Roxb.

Hin-Pula, Choupultea, Pathra, Polao; Tam-Vendai; Tel-Potri, Kondapotari, Pachabotuka, Pandiki; Kan-Bellaka, Nayibende; Mal-Velukku, Nedunar, Venta

A small tree or large bush common in the forests of Sub-Tropical region of India. It belongs to the family Malvaceae. The wood is white, soft, no heartwood and is used for house-building, and making of ploughs and oars and for carving.

Lannea grandis.

Engl (L.coroamandelica (Houtt,) Merrill Odina wodier, Roxb) Hin-Jhingan, Kimil, Mohin; Tam-Wodier, Kalasan; Tel- Appriyada; Kan-Ajasringi, Kuratige,gojal; Mal-Odiya Maram

A large deciduous tree of 40 to 50 feet in height, met throughout the hotter parts of India. The Sapwood is large in amount and subjected to worms. The heart-wood when freshly cut is light red but becomes reddish brown on exposure. It is moderately hard, close-grained, seasons well, does not warp, and is not very durable. The wood is used for a variety of purposes like shafts, spear, scabbards, wheel spokes, cattle yokes, oil presses and rice pounders. Catalogue of The South Indian Timbers

Litsfea zeylanica, Nees.

Tam-Molaga Shembaga-Palei; Tel-Akupatricum; Kan-Bilinisangi, Massimara; Mal-Vayana

A small tree with variable foliage found in the hilly region of India, at an altitude of 7000 feet.

The wood is reddish-white, with darker heartwood moderately hard. In South India it is used for house-building purposes and making of planks and rafters.

Limonia acidissima.

Hin-Beli; Tam-Nayvila; Tel-Tor-Elaga; Kan-Nayibullal; Mal-Kattunarakan

A spinous shrub (or) small tree, native of dry hills in various parts of India. It belongs to the family Rutaceae. The wood is yellow, hard, close-grained, and used for making axles of oil-presses and rice pounders.

Mallotus philippiensis Muell.

Eng-Kamala Tree; Hin-Kamala, Sindur, Rohini; Tam-Kapli, Kungumam, Kurangumanjanatti; Tel-Kun kuma, Sinduri, Chendiramu; Kan-Kun Kumadamara; Mal-Manjana, Kuramadakku

A small, evergreen tree, found throughout Tropical India. It belongs to the family Euphorbiaceae. The wood is suitable for making rafters, tool-handles, match-boxes and small turnery articles.

Melia azadirachta, Linn. The Neem (or) Margosa Tree

Eng-Neem Tree, Margosa Tree; Hin-Nim; Tam, Tel & Mal-Vepa; Kan-Bevu; Sans-Nimba

A large tree of 40 to 50 feet in height common, wild (or) more often cultivated throughout the greater part of India.

The sapwood is grey, and the heart-wood is red in colour, very hard, and beautifully mottled. It is strong, clean grained and resists the attack of worms.

Memecylon edule, Roxb.

The Iron wood Tree

Tam-Alli, Anjani, Kaya; Tel-Alli, Kikkalli, Uddalalli; Kan-Archeti, Harchari lakhonde; Mal-Kashavu, Kanalei, Kannavu; Mar-Anjani, Kurpa, Limba

An exceedingly common plant, met with in the East and South India. The wood is used for making house posts, rafters, light axe-handles, walking sticks and decorative works.

Myrsine capitellata, wall.

A shrub (or) small tree found in India belongs to the family Myrsinaceae. The wood is moderately hard, pink coloured, durable, and used by the natives.

Morus alba, Linn. THE WHITE MULBERRY

Hin-Tut, Tutri, Chinni; Tam-Musukette, Kambli Chedi; Tel-Reshme Chattu, PippaliPandu Chettu; Kan-Hipnerle; San-Tula

A deciduous, monocecious tree, distributed either as wild (or) cultivated in India. It belongs to the family Urticaceae. The wood is yellow or reddish-brown, hard and even-grained. It seasons and polishes well, and is used for making boats, furnitures and agricultural implements. Catalogue of The South Indian Tunbers

Nephelium litchi, Camb. (Syn: Litchi chinensis (Gaertn.) sonn.)

The Litchi Hin-Lichi

A handsome evergreen tree introduced from South China and now cultivated largely in India for its delicious fruits. It belongs to the family Sapindaceae. The wood is not used domestically.

Olax scandes, Roxb.

Hin-Dheniani; Tam-Kadalranchi, Malliveppam; Tel-Kurpodur, Murikimalle; Kan-Bapanamushti gida, Karadu

A large, woody, climbing shrub, with a trunk often as thick as a man's thigh; found in the tropical forests of the western Himalayas. It belongs to the family Oleaceae.

The wood is porous, yellowish-white, and soft. It is not put to any industrial purposes.

Oroxylum indicum, Vent.

Hin-Ullu, Arlu, Saona; Tam-Achi, Peiarlanthei; Tel-Dundilum, Pampini; Kan-Tigdu, Bunepale, Sonepatta; Mal-Palagapaiyani; San-Shyonaka

A glabrous tree found throughout India, up to the altitudes of 3,000 feet. The wood is yellowish white, soft, and devoid of the heart-wood. It is said to be so soft, as to be unfit for use.

Ougeinia dalbergioides, Benth.

Eng-Sandan; Hin-Sandan, Panjan, Tinsa, Panan; Tam-Narivengai; Tel-Tella-Motuku; Kan-Kurimutal, Kari-Honne; Mal-Malavenna; San-Tinisha

A moderate-sized deciduous tree, under certain circumstances gregarious also. It is found chiefly in the intermediate zone of the Himalaya, but distributed also Central India and the West Coast. The sapwood is small, heart-wood is mottled, light brown, sometimes reddish-brown, hard, close-grained, tough, and durable. Domestically it is used for making agricultural implements, carriage poles, wheels, and furniture and also for building purposes.

Ougeinia dalbergioides, Benth.

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Hin-Sandan, Panjan, Tinsa, Panan; Tam-Narivengai; Tel-Tella Motuku; Kan-Kurimutal, Kari-Honne; Mal-Malavenna; San-Tinisha

It is a moderate-size deciduous tree, under certain circumstances gregarious, found chiefly in the intermediate zone of the sub-Himalaya and west coast. This belongs to the Family Papilionaceae & sub family Fabaceae.

The sapwood is small, heart-wood mottled, light-brown, sometimes reddishbrown, hard, close-grained, tough and durable. It takes beautiful polish. It is a very valuable timber used for making agricultural implements, carriage poles, wheels and in furniture making.

Oxytenanthera bourdilloni Gamble.

Tam-Ponmungil; Mal-Arambu

This is a species of bamboo, widely distributed in the tropical forests. Internodes are employed to carry maps, and are also used for making combs.

Podocarpus latifolia, wall.

Tam-Narambali; Kan-Kurunthumbi

It is a large evergreen, glabrous tree, found in the hill forests of India. It belongs to the family Coniferae. Its wood is grey in colour, aromatic, and uniform grain and texture. It is used for making oars, masts and planks.

Pterocymbium tinctorium.

Trade name-Papita

It is a tree, growing up to 50 to 60 feet high, frequently found in the tropical forests. It belongs to the family Sterculiaceae.

The wood is soft, white, coarsely fibrous and rather loose, but straightgrained. It is very light and perishable but polishes well. Its wood is used for making match-boxes and splints, suitable for planking, lamination and insulation boards and also used for making fish-net, wooden shoes, and hats.

Taxus baccata, Linn.

Eng-Common Yew; Hin-Thuno, Thuner, Birmi, Zirnupbirmi; San-Manduparni

An evergreen tree, found on the Temperate Himalaya from 6,000 to 11,000 feet. It belongs to the class Taxaceae. The Sapwood is white, and the heart-wood is red or orange-red, hard, smooth-grained. It works easily, polishes well, and is much valued; it is extensively used by cabinet-makers for making furniture veneers, and turning.

106

Trewia nudiflora, Linn.

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Eng-False White Teak, Hin-Bhillaura, Gamhar, Pindara, Tumri; Tam-Annathuvarei, Attarasu, Attupuvarasu, Kanji, Raypbunul; Tel-Eeluponaku; Kan-Katkumbala, Kaadukanji, Mal-Kattukumil, malankumil; San-Pindara

It is a large, deciduous tree, common in the hotter parts of India. It belongs to the family Euphorbiaceae. The wood is white, soft and is not durable. It is used for making native drums and agricultural implements.

Pleurostylia wightii wight & Arn.

Tel-Piyari; Tam-Chirupiyari, Karuvali

A tree species belongs to the family Celastraceae. The timber yields beautiful furniture wood, and is also used for combs.

Pittosporum tetraspermum wight & Arn.

Mal-Katcha Patta

A tree belonging to the family Pittoporaceae distributed in the tropical forests of India. The wood is light-coloured, strong and tough but of small size, and is used for toys making.

Randia condolliana wight & Arn.

Tel-Konda manga; Kan-Mahagare, Bettamangare

A tree found throughout India, family Rubiaceae. It yields closed-grained, hard, and heavy wood.

Catalogue of The South Indian Timbers

Saccopetalum tomentosum, H.f. & T.

Hin-Kar, Kirua; Tam-Periuvay; Tel-Chilkadudu;

It is a large tree, with straight stem, found in Central India and Western Ghats. It belongs to the Family Annonaceae.The wood is olive-brown, moderately hard, smooth, close-grained; no heart-wood. It is not apt to warp. The timber is used for building huts and cattle sheds.

Schrebera swietenioides, Roxb.

Eng- The Weaver's Beam Tree; Hin-Moka, Banpalas, Ghant, Gayka Lundi; Tam-Mogalinga; Tel-Bullakaya,Tondamukkidi, Magalinga, Mukkalppa; Kan -Bula, Gante, Kalgante, Mogalingamara, Magganti;

A deciduous tree 40 to 50 feet high, found in the Tropical Himalaya and in Central and Southern India. It belongs to the family Oleaceae. The wood is brownish grey, polishes well, is durable does not wrap or split. There is no proper heart-wood but irregular masses of purple (or) claret-coloured wood are scattered throughout the centre of the tree. Domestically, the wood is used for turning, for making combs and weaver's beams.

Sideroxylon tomentosum, Roxb.

Tam-Palai, Mulmakil; Kan-Hudigullu, Kampale, Gomale, Kabbinadamara; Mar-Kumbul, Kanta Kumla

This is a small (or) moderately-sized tree of Western Ghats. The wood is light reddish-white, fibrous, and rather heavy. The timber is used for making house-beams and carpenter's plane.

Sonneratia apetala buch-Ham.

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Tam-Marama; Tel-Kyalanki; Mar-kandal, Undi

It is a moderate-sized tree, met with in the tidal creeks of Bengal. Wood is used mostly for making packing-cases. It is also suitable for making opium chests. Other uses include house construction and for making rough furniture. It belongs to the Family Sonneratiaceae.

Terminalia tomentosa Bedd,

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Hin-Asan, Sain, Saj; Tam-Karramarda; Tel-Tani; Kan-Sadada

A large, deciduous tree, which attains a height of 80 to 100 feet, is common throughout the moister regions of India. It belongs to the family Combretaceae. The Sapwood is reddish-white, heart-wood is dark-brown, hard, beautifully variegated with streaks of darker colour. It seasons well and takes good polish. It is largely used for house-building, and for making furniture, carts, shafts, wheels and rice-pounders.

Viburnum erubescens, Wall.

Bhutan-Nakovli, Damshing

A large shrub (or) small tree, common on the Himalaya and found in the Nilghiris. It belongs to the family Caprifoliaceae. The wood is very hard, reddish, close and even-grained. It might be used as a substitute for box wood and for carving.

Vitex altissima, Linn.

Tam-Maila, Mayilai; Tel-Nemiliadogu Kan-Myrole, Bulgi, Balga; Mal-Mayila

A large tree species belonging to the family Verbenaceae which commonly occurs in Southern India; especially common in Western India. The wood is grey with a tinge of olive brown, hard, close-grained. The timber is one of the most valuable in South India; it does not split nor warp polishes well, and is much used for building purposes, for cabinet works, and for making carts.

109

Catalogue of The South Indian Timbers

Webera corymbosa, Willd.

Beng-Kankra; Tel-Komi; Oriya - Jhanjhauka

It is a large shrub (or) small tree, found in the Western Peninsula from the Konkan Southwards. The wood is yellowish-white, hard, close-grained; used in making fishing-boats.

Xímenia americana, Willd.

Eng-False sandal wood; Tam-Chiru-illantai, Kadaranji, Siruyilandai Tel-Kondanakkera, Nagaragandaman, Uranechra, Naggiri; Kan-Nagarigidda, Nakkare, Kandanakkare

A large straggling shrub (or) low tree found in Eastern Peninsulas. It belongs to the family Olacaceae. The wood is yellow, like sandal-wood, often powdered and substituted for true sandal-wood.

Xylia dolabriformis, Benth.

The Iron-wood Tree

It is a large, deciduous tree, distributed in Central and Southern India. It belongs to the family Mimosaceae. The sapwood is small; heart-wood darkbrown (or) reddish-brown extremely hard, beautifully mottled, cross-grained, the heart wood is very durable and resists the attacks of white ants. It is used for boat-building and for making of agricultural implements; also for making carts, tool handles, posts, and carts.

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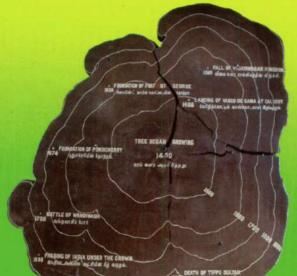
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Display in the Systematic Botany Gallery



Cross Section of Teakwood

Cross Section of Rose wood