

BONSUM (*Phoebe hainesiana*)

Family: Lauraceae

Vernacular /Local Name: Uningthou
(State tree of Manipur)

Habitat: Occurs in semi evergreen forests

Global Distribution: India, Bhutan and Malaysia

Distribution in Manipur: Eastern part of the state

Description: It is a large tree of about 45m height; trunk up to 6m in diameter; thick-dark grey bark, wood are yellow in colour.

Economic Importance: Building materials, furniture, structural and decorative plywood, interior construction, packing cases and planks.



WHITE TEAK (*Gmelina arborea*)

Family: Verbenaceae

Vernacular /Local Name: Wang

Habitat: Occurs in deciduous and semi-evergreen forest

Global Distribution: India, China, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam

Distribution in Manipur: Eastern part of the state

Description: It is a fast-growing tree, moderate to large height up to 30m with 4.5m diameter. Wood is soft to moderately hard, light to moderately heavy, lustrous when fresh, usually straight to irregular or rarely wavy grained and medium course textured.

Economic Importance: Door and window panels, furniture, musical instruments and artificial limbs.



GOLDEN CHAMPA (*Michelia champaca*)

Family: Magnoliaceae

Vernacular /Local Name: Leihao

Habitat: Occurs in scattered in primary lowland to mountain rain forest

Global Distribution: India, Laos, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam

Distribution in Manipur: Jiribam, Bishnupur, Tengnoupal, Thoubal districts.

Description: It is a small to medium sized tree up to 50m tall, bole straight, cylindrical up to 200cm in diameter. It has strongly fragrant flower in shades of cream to yellow-orange

Economic Importance: Furniture, cabinetry, construction, massage oils and perfume.



BURMESE LACQUER (*Melanorrhoea usitata*)

Family: Anacardiaceae

Vernacular /Local Name: Khe-u

Habitat: Occurs in open forests and rare in dry forests.

Global Distribution: India, China, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos

Distribution in Manipur: Eastern part of the state and Thoubal district.

Description: It is large deciduous tree with a straight, cylindrical bole and a spreading crown to dark green leaves. The wood is dark red with yellowish streaks, turning very dark after long exposure. It is very hard.

Economic Importance: The lacquers used for producing varnish, waterproof or preservation paint, glue, ceramic and lacquer ware. The wood is also used for furniture and inlay work.



KHASI PINE (*Pinus kesiya*)

Family: Pinaceae

Vernacular /Local Name: U-chan

Habitat: Occurs in pine savannas, pure stands with nearly closed canopy and mixed pine broad leaved forest.

Global Distribution: India, China, Thailand, Philippines, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam

Distribution in Manipur: Central and eastern part of the state.

Description: It is an evergreen coniferous tree up to 30-35m tall with a straight, cylindrical trunk up to 1-1.2m diameter. The branchlets are horizontal to drooping.

Economic Importance: House construction, furniture, boxes, paper pulp, and temporary electrical poles. The resinous wood is used as touch wood. The resin is used as a raw material for manufacturing nail polish, paint and varnish.



TEAK (*Tectona grandis*)

Family: Verbenaceae

Vernacular /Local Name: Ching-su

Habitat: Occurs in river banks and less successfully raised in plain

Global Distribution: South and South East Asia

Distribution in Manipur: Eastern part of the state

Description: It is a large deciduous tree up to 40m tall with gray to grayish brown branches. It is mostly known for their finest quality wood. It's high oil content, high tensile strength and tight grain make it particularly suitable where weather resistance is desired. It is also resistant to termite attacks and damage cause by insects.

Economic Importance: Outdoor furniture, boat desks, boards, indoor flooring, doors and window frame and furniture.



KHANGRA (*Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*)

Family: Dipterocarpaceae

Vernacular /Local Name: Khangra

Habitat: Occurs in Eastern hilly semi-evergreen forest

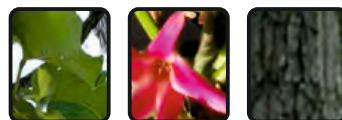
Global Distribution: India, Laos, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam

Distribution in Manipur: Kamjong, Chandel, Tengnoupal

Description: It is a deciduous tree with 15-25m tall. The bole is short, cylindrical, straight, generally 40-60cm in diameter. The wood is heavy, hard, fairly durable.

Economic Importance:

Construction for making beams, boards, furniture and making boats.



INDIAN CEDAR (*Toona ciliata*)

Family: Meliaceae

Vernacular /Local Name: Tairel

Habitat: Occur in streams bank and even swamps and also cultivated

Global Distribution: India, China, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and Nepal.

Distribution in Manipur: Eastern part of the state

Description: It is a large deciduous tree with a spreading crown, commonly attaining a height of 20- 30m and 1.8- 3m in diameter. The heartwood is pale brown, cedar brown to dark red brown.

Economic Importance: Furniture, house construction, ship, boxes, musical instrument, plywood, toys. The bark may be used for tanning leather.



GURJAN (*Dipterocarpus turbinatus*)

Family: Dipterocarpaceae

Vernacular /Local Name: Yangou

Habitat: Occurs in mixed deciduous, evergreen and semi evergreen forest.

Global Distribution: India, China, Thailand, Philippine, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Indonesia

Distribution in Manipur: Eastern part of the state

Description: It is a lofty tree about 30-45m tall, bark is gray or dark brown, shallowly longitudinally fissured and flaky, branchlets are hairless

Economic Importance: Furniture, construction, Plywood, dug-out-canoes, fuel, charcoal, boxes.



HOLLOCK (*Terminalia myriocarpa*)

Family: Combretaceae

Vernacular /Local Name: Tolhao

Habitat: Occur in valleys and low hills forests

Global Distribution: India, Laos, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Vietnam

Distribution in Manipur: Eastern part of the state

Description : Large evergreen tree growing up to 40m tall. The bole can often be very large up to 1.5-4m in diameter with an ovoid crown and pendulous branches.

Economic Importance: Furniture, house building, door and window frames, railway carriage and charcoal making.



Reference:

- i) <http://manipurforestflora.co.in>
- ii) <http://tropical.theferns.info>

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National Mission on Himalayan Studies



MAJOR TIMBER SPECIES OF MANIPUR

- Forests and trees plays an important role in the economic, environmental and social landscape of the state.
- We depend on forests for our survival. Besides providing habitat for animals and livelihood for human, forests also offer watershed protection, prevent soil erosion and mitigate climate change.
- Reservation of trees and sustainable management of forest must be practiced.

Developed by:

Nature Learning Centre (NLC)
Forest Department,
Government of Manipur

Sponsored by:

National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS)
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Government of India.