



Regional Plant Resource Centre

An autonomous organization under the Department of Forest and Environment, Govt. of Odisha, India

PLANT OF THE WEEK

18th week
18-06-2015

Chloroxylon swietenia DC.

Botanical Name :

Chloroxylon swietenia DC.

Synonyms :

Swietenia chloroxylon Roxb.

Family : Rutaceae

Local Name

English : Indian Satin Wood

Hindi : Bhirra, Bivia

Odiya : Bheru, Garcho

Telugu : Billudu, Billu

Sanskrit : Bhillotaka, Bimbilota

Habitat

Frequent in open forest

Distribution

India, Sri Lanka, Madagascar

Odisha

(Mahendragiri, Ganjam, Kalahandi, Sambalpur, Bargarh, Angul, Puri)

Flowering: March– April

Fruiting: May–June

Conservation Status

Vulnerable



Indian Satin Wood

USES

Chloroxylon swietenia wood is traded internationally and it is very expensive and supplies are limited.

Leaves: The crushed leaves are applied on wounds and to treat snakebites and rheumatism. A paste of the leaves and roots is taken internally to treat headache and is applied on forehead as a balm for the same purpose .

Barks : It is considered astringent and also taken to treat fever, chest pain and in a mixture with other plants to treat asthma.

Wood: - It provides a decorative timber, used for furniture, panelling, pattern making, interior trim, cabinet work, flooring, boxes, crates, interior joinery, carvings, toys, musical instruments and luxury goods. Because of its strength it is also used for heavy construction, railway sleepers, boat building and agricultural equipment.



Description

Small or medium sized deciduous tree growing upto 20 mt. tall.

Bark thick, fissured, slightly corky.

Leaves alternate, paripinnate, greyish or glaucous-green; rachis with petiole 20-30cm; leaflets 10-20 pairs, alternate or subopposite, rhomboid-oblong, 2-3×0.8-1.5 cm, entire, obtuse, glabrous, glaucous, gland-dotted, very inequilateral, rounded at apex; petiolule 2-2.5 mm.

Flowers white, 6.5 mm across, in branched, pubescent, 7-12 cm long terminal and axillary panicles, often clustered towards the ends of the branches from the leaf scars.

Capsules oblong-ovoid, 2.5-4 cm long, 3-celled, 3-valved dehiscent. Seeds oblong, 1.8-2 cm long, including the membranous somewhat falcate wing.



Source

Krishen Pradip.(2013). Jungle trees of Central India, a field guide for tree spotter, pp: 310-311

Saxena, H.O. & Brahmam, M. (1994). The Flora of Orissa, Vol. IV, pp: 230-231.

www.iucnredlist.org

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