

PLANT OF THE WEEK

14TH WEEK 05-05-2015

Bark

Litsea glutinosa (Lour.) C.B.Rob.

Botanical Name:

Litsea glutinosa (Lour.)
C.B.Rob.

Synonyms:

Sebifera glutinosa Lour.
Litsea chinensis Lam.
L. sebifera (Willd.) Pers.
L. laurifolia (Jacq.) F.M. Bailey
Tetranthera laurifolia Jacq.

Family: Lauraceae

Local Name

Odia & Bihar: Medha.

Hindi: Menda

Bengali : Kakur chita

Tamil: Nara mamidi

Habitat

Tropical deciduous or Evergreen forests.

Distribution

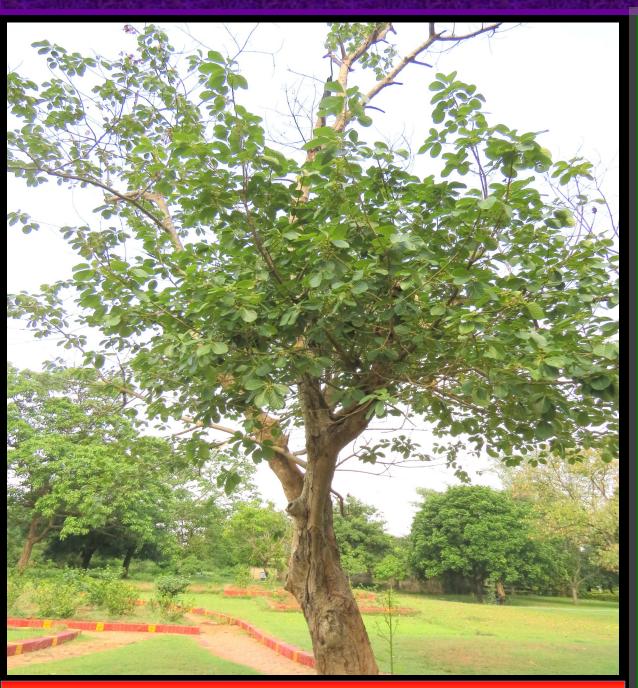
India, Sri Lanka, China, Bhutan, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam. Malaysia, Australia. In Odisha it is found in Bhitarkania, Mayurbhanj, Parlakhemundi, Sambalpur and Angul.

Flowering Time: June-July.

Fruiting Time: Sept-Nov.

Conservation Status

Vulnerable



Uses

Bark: Stem bark used as relieving pain, arousing sexual power & good for stomach disease. It is considered to be mildly astringent, include treatment of diarrohea & dysentery. It is also widely used as an emollient and demulcent.

Leaf: Leaf paste used as demulcent, mild astringent, styptic, emollient and also used for dysentery, diarrohea, bruises, cut wounds & hemorrhages.

Root: Root extracts used as refrigerant, anodyne, anti-

inflammatory, antidiarrhoeal, antidysentric, emollient, emmenagogue and also useful in trauma, fracture

etc.

Fruit: Oil from the berries is used for rheumatism.

A normal tree of Litsea glutinosa

Description

Litsea glutinosa is an evergreen or deciduous tree up to 20 m tall.

Bark: Bark smooth, young branchlets yellow, tomentose and slightly rough in old trees.

Leaf: Leaves alternate, simple; petiolate, gray-yellow tomentose. Leaf blade elliptic, elliptic-lanceolate, oblong or lanceolate, apex obtuse to acuminate or rounded, surface glabrous or pubescent, base obtuse or acute. Unicostate reticulate venation.

Flower: Inflorescence umbels solitary or several on short branchlets, few flowered. Flowers white or yellowish in colour. Peduncles pubescent or glabrescent, axillary or

from the axils of caduceus bracts on the new shoots below the leaves; pedicels very short; bracts concave orbicular. Perianth-tube minute in flower, thickened and disc-like in continuation with pedicel. Stamens 9-20 with long villous filaments; glands fleshy on villous stalks.

Flowers

Fruit : Drupe purplish black, globose, pedicel, slightly thickened at apex. Seeds straight.



Saxena, H.O. & Brahmam, M. (1994). The Flora of Orissa, Vol. III, pp: 1565-66.

Swain B.K & Das S.K. (2007) Visual guide to wild medicinal plants of Orissa, pp 243.

Rath. B (2004) Medicinal properties of Litsea glutinosa LOUR. & L. monopetala PERS. e-planet 2(2):94-95.

www.envis.frlht.org

www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Litsea glutinosa

