



Regional Plant Resource Centre  
An autonomous organization under the Department of Forest and Environment, Govt. of Odisha, India

# PLANT OF THE WEEK

14TH WEEK  
05-05-2015

## *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



A normal tree of *Litsea glutinosa*

**Bark :** Stem bark used as relieving pain, arousing sexual power & good for stomach disease. It is considered to be mildly astringent, include treatment of diarrhoea & 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, diarrhoea, bruises, cut wounds & hemorrhages.

**Root :** Root extracts used as refrigerant, anodyne, anti-inflammatory, antidiarrhoeal, anti-dysentric, emollient, emmenagogue and also useful in trauma, fracture etc.

**Fruit :** Oil from the berries is used for rheumatism.

### Uses



Bark



Flowers

### 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 caduceous 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.



Fruits

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

### Source:

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](http://www.envis.frlht.org)

[www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Litsea glutinosa](http://www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Litsea_glutinosa)

### Conservation Status

Vulnerable