

LOCAL NAMES

Malay (seminai)

BOTANIC DESCRIPTION

Madhuca utilis is a large tree up to 50 m tall with bole up to 1 m in diameter and buttresses up to 2 m high.

Leaves closely clustered at tips of twigs, obovate to spatulate, 4-12.5(-18) cm x 1.5-6 cm, secondary veins joined in irregular arches near margin, glabrous and glaucous beneath, stipules up to 3 mm long, caducous

Flowers with sepals yellowish-brown woolly outside and glabrous inside except near tips, 8-9-lobed corolla sparsely woolly outside and glabrous inside except between stamens, 10-16 stamens and glabrous ovary.

Fruit ellipsoid to fusiform, 3.5-5.5 cm x 1.5-3 cm, with woody or fleshy pericarp, 1-seeded.

Seed 3-4 cm long, with thin, brown testa and very large greyish scar, endosperm very thin or absent, cotyledons thick.

BIOLOGY

Monkeys have been observed to eat the seeds of *M. utilis*. Many seeds are destroyed in this way, but the ones dropped accidentally are dispersed over some distance.

ECOLOGY

M. utilis is locally common, particularly in Peninsular Malaysia, in lowland primary forest; also found in swampy forest.

BIOPHYSICAL LIMITS

DOCUMENTED SPECIES DISTRIBUTION

Native: Indonesia, Malaysia

Exotic:



The map above shows countries where the species has been planted. It does neither suggest that the species can be planted in every ecological zone within that country, nor that the species can not be planted in other countries than those depicted. Since some tree species are invasive, you need to follow biosafety procedures that apply to your planting site.

PRODUCTS

Lipids: The oil from the seeds is used locally in Sumatra for cooking.

Timber: The heartwood is dark red-brown, often with a purplish tinge. The density is 920-1200 kg/m cubic at 15% moisture content. Grain straight or slightly interlocked, texture fine and even. *M. utilis* is durable but it is very difficult to impregnate. Timber of *M. utilis* is susceptible to marine borers. The timber is used as bitis, for heavy constructional work, paving blocks, agricultural implements and turnery.

SERVICES

TREE MANAGEMENT

GERMPLASM MANAGEMENT

PESTS AND DISEASES

FURTHER READNG

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SUGGESTED CITATION

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