

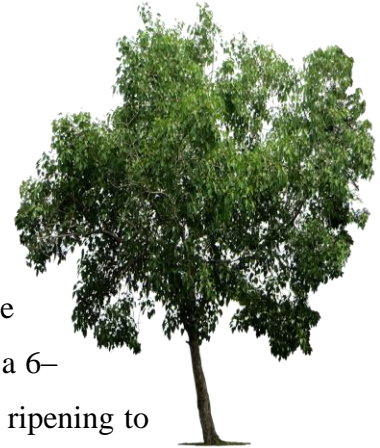
Ficus religiosa

Botanical Name: *Ficus religiosa*

Common Name: Peepal tree

Morphological Characters:

Ficus religiosa is a large dry season-deciduous or semi-evergreen tree up to 30 metres (98 ft) tall and with a trunk diameter of up to 3 metres (9.8 ft). The leaves are cordate in shape with a distinctive extended drip tip; they are 10–17 cm long and 8–12 cm broad, with a 6–10 cm petiole. The fruits are small figs 1–1.5 cm in diameter, green ripening to purple. The leaves of this tree move continuously even when the air around is still and no perceptible wind is blowing. This phenomenon can be explained due to the long leaf stalk and the broad leaf structure.



Growing season and Type:

1. The peepal (*Ficus religiosa*) is a very large tree. Its bark is light grey, smooth and peels in patches. Its heart-shaped leaves have long, tapering tips. The slightest breeze makes them rustle. The fruit is purple when ripe.
2. Peepal trees are native to India and thrive in hot, humid weather. They prefer full sunlight and can grow in most soil types, though loam is the best. When planting, use soil with a pH of 7 or below.



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1. Fruit of *Ficus religiosa*
2. Leaf of *Ficus religiosa*
3. *Ficus religiosa* Tree



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Source: <http://www.ecoindia.com/trips/>