

## *Horsfieldia kingii*

**Botanical name:** *Horsfieldia kingii*

**Common name:** Ramtamul

### **Morphological characters:**

*Horsfieldia kingii* (Hook.f.) Warb. is a dioecious evergreen tree, generally 10-12 m in height. The branches are usually crowded on top of the trunk and somewhat horizontal. The small staminate and pistillate flowers of the *Horsfieldia* genus are similar to species of *Myristica* and *Knema*. The fruits are solitary, supported by a persistent perianth with a pericarp that is thick and leathery. The cream-colored ovoid seed is enclosed by a bright yellow entire aril. The fruits dehisce on ripening. The fruit and seed are edible and used as a substitute for betel nut.



### **Growing season and type:**

1. *Horsfieldia* trees did not flower every year, and flowering was staggered from April to July.
2. Peak ripe fruit availability of *Horsfieldia* is from February to March.
3. Failure of fruiting occurred in most years, and only 0-33% of sampled trees bore ripe fruits.



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1. Fruit of *Horsfieldia kingii*
2. *Horsfieldia kingie* tree



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