

Moringa oleifera

Botanical Name: *Moringa oleifera*

Common Name: Drumstick tree, Senjana

Morphological Characteristics:

M. oleifera is a fast-growing, deciduous tree. It can reach a height of 10–12 m (32–40 ft) and the trunk can reach a diameter of 45 cm (1.5 ft). The bark has a whitish-grey colour and is surrounded by thick cork. Young shoots have purplish or greenish-white, hairy bark. The tree has an open crown of drooping, fragile branches and the leaves build up feathery foliage of tripinnate leaves. The flowers are fragrant and bisexual, surrounded by five unequal, thinly veined, yellowish-white petals. The flowers are about 1.0-1.5 cm (1/2") long and 2.0 cm (3/4") broad. They grow on slender, hairy stalks in spreading or drooping later flower clusters which have a length of 10–25 cm. The flowers are fragrant and bisexual, surrounded by five unequal, thinly veined, yellowish-white petals. The flowers are about 1.0-1.5 cm (1/2") long and 2.0 cm (3/4") broad.



Growing Season and Type

1. *Moringa Oleifera* is basically found everywhere in India. It is found in areas having warm and dry and moist. The maximum height to which it can grow is about 10 m.
2. The tree of Moringa bears both fruits and flowers. It can be seen mostly in areas having drought like conditions. In India, fruits starts coming between March and April.
3. After the fruits are taken away from the tree, the seeds of the fruit are dried, crushed and oil is collected from those seeds. There are 14 species of Moringa Oleifera.



1



2



3

- 1) Flower of *Moringa oleifera*
- 2) Leaf of *Moringa oleifera*
- 3) *Moringa oleifera* tree