

Terminalia elliptica

Botanical Name: *Terminalia elliptica*

Common Name: Asna, Saj or Saaj, Indian-laure

Morphological Characters:

Deciduous trees, to 30 m high; bark 15-20 mm thick, surface grey-black, very rough, deeply vertically fissured, horizontally cracked, forming tessellated, thick flakes; blaze red. Leaves simple, opposite to subopposite, exstipulate; petiole 10-20 mm long, stout, grooved above, glabrous; lamina 13-20 x 5-13 cm, base oblique; apex acute, round, or obtuse, margin entire or crenulate, glabrous, coriaceous, midrib with 2 stalked glands near the base beneath; lateral nerves 10-20 pairs, parallel, prominent, intercostae scalariform, prominent. Flowers bisexual, dull yellow, 2-3 mm across, bracteoles 1-2 mm long, linear or subulate; calyx tube 1-2 x 1-1.8 mm, angled, petals absent; stamens 10 in 2 rows; filaments 4-5 mm; disc 5-lobed, villous; ovary 2.5 mm long, inferior, densely villous, 1-celled; ovules 2 or 3, pendulous; style 4 mm, subulate; stigma small. Fruit a drupe 3.5 x 5.5 cm, longitudinally 5-winged, glabrous; wings equal, thin, pubescent, lines on the wings horizontal, apex round, coriaceous, reddish-brown; seed one.



Growing season and Type:

1. Asan is a tree growing to 30 m tall, with a trunk diameter of 1 m. The fruit is ovoid, 3 cm long, with five wings not extending beyond the fruit apex. The bark is fire-resistant.
2. The heartwood varies from light brown with few markings to dark brown or brownish black and figured with darker streaks.
3. The wood is used for furniture, cabinetwork, joinery, paneling, specialty items, boat-building, railroad cross-ties and decorative veneers.
4. Flowering and fruiting time is April-May. Moist and dry deciduous forests.



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1) Flower of *Terminalia elliptica*

2) Leaf and fruit of *Terminalia elliptica*

3) *Terminalia elliptica* tree

Source: <http://tropical.theferns.info>