

## *Terminalia catappa*

**Botanical Name:** *Terminalia catappa*

**Common Name:** Bangla-Badam, Indian Almond Tree

### **Morphological Characters:**

The tree grows to 35 m (115 ft) tall, with an upright, symmetrical crown and horizontal branches. *Terminalia catappa* has corky, light fruit that are dispersed by water. The seed within the fruit is edible when fully ripe, tasting almost like almond. As the tree gets older, its crown becomes more flattened to form a spreading, vase shape. Its branches are distinctively arranged in tiers. The leaves are large, 15–25 cm (5.9–9.8 in) long and 10–14 cm (3.9–5.5 in) broad, ovoid, glossy dark green, and leathery. They are dry-season deciduous; before falling, they turn pinkish-reddish or yellow-brown, due to pigments such as violaxanthin, lutein, and zeaxanthin



### **Growing Season and Type:**

1. The trees are monoecious, with distinct male and female flowers on the same tree.
2. The fruit is a drupe 5–7 cm (2.0–2.8 in) long and 3–5.5 cm (1.2–2.2 in) broad, green at first, then yellow and finally red when ripe, containing a single seed.
3. During the dry season, the leaves turn into autumn colours of red, copper, gold.
4. The tree usually sheds all its leaves twice a year in January-February and July-August. The tree first drops its leaves when it reaches 3-4 years old.



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1. Flower of *Terminalia catappa*
2. Leaf of *Terminlia catappa*
3. *Terminlia catappa* tree

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terminalia\\_catappa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terminalia_catappa)