

Pterocymbium tinctorium

Botanical Name: *Pterocymbium tinctorium*

Common Name: Taluto

Morphological Characters:

A large deciduous tree, 30-42 m tall; buttress absent; stem 70-85 cm diameter, tapering, no branches for more than half its length, looks white from far; outer bark grey, usually smooth or with small horizontal ridges, finely fissured vertically; inner bark brown red, laminate; sapwood slightly pinkish to white; terminal branches smooth to striate, lenticels absent. Petiole brown, 2-8 cm long, glabrous; stipules caduceous. Leaves spirally arranged; lamina thinly papery, cordate to ovate, base cordate to truncate, apex acute to acuminate, 7-13.5 × 4-6 cm, glabrous above, pilose below, with 5-7 palmate basal veins, shiny, margin entire, midrib raised; young ones usually lobed, dark green, densely pubescent. Inflorescence a lax, erect, terminal panicle, 5-12 cm long, with dense stellate hairs. Flower unisexual, with male and female flowers on the same plant stalked, in clusters of 3-5, bellshaped, 5-lobed; bract caduceous to semi-persistent, outer surface with stellate hairs, inner surface glabrous; male flower: not seen; female flowers: yellowish white, 5-lobed. Fruit of 4-6 follicles, within a persistent calyx, pendulous, dehiscent before ripening; follicle papery, winged, boatshaped, 6-9.2 cm long, inner surface of wing glabrous with some red dots, outer surface glabrous or with very sparse stellate hairs, inner surface shiny, outer surface look dull, with a prominent dorsal lobe. Seed 1 at base of each follicle, solitary, ellipsoid, 1.5-1.8 × 1.1-1.2 cm, outer surface rough, wrinkled, cotyledon 2, pale yellow, and smooth, between the two a yellow wooly substance is interposed.



Growing Season and Type:

1. Grows in tropical moist deciduous forests up to an elevation of 400 m.
2. Flowering is observed in the month of February-March.
3. Fruiting occurs in the season of April-May



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1. Flower of *Pterocymbium tinctorium*



2

2. Leaf of *Pterocymbium tinctorium*



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3. *Pterocymbium tinctorium*

Source: <http://tropical.theferns.info/viewtropical.php?id=Pterocymbium+tinctorium>