

***Lannea coromandelica* (Indian Ash Tree)**

Classification

Kingdom: Plantae

Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Spermatophyta

Order: Sapindales

Family: Anacardiaceae

Genus: *Lannea*

Species: *coromandelica*



DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT

Found in deciduous forests, tropical dry forests in India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan and Southeast Asia. Grows on a variety of soils, including clay, loam, and sand.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Trunk: Hard, dense, greyish-brown, can grow up to 82 feet.

Leaves: Compound leaves with 2-4 pairs of leaflets, 2-4 inches long and 0.8 - 1.6 inches wide.

Flowers: Small, greenish-yellow flowers in clusters, 0.2-0.24 inches long.

Fruits: Fruits are berry-like, red or purple when ripe, 0.24-0.32 inches in diameter.

CULTIVATION AND USES

Lannea coromandelica is commonly cultivated in tropical and subtropical regions for its timber, fuelwood, and other products. It is often planted in agroforestry systems, as it provides shade and improves soil fertility.

INTERESTING FACTS

The tree is used as a host for the lac insect, which produces lacquer. The wood is used to make musical instruments, such as drums and guitars.