

***Manilkara zapota* (Sapodilla)**

Classification

Kingdom: Plantae

Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Ebenales

Family: Sapotaceae

Genus: Manilkara

Species: zapota



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Trunk: Straight, cylindrical, and can grow up to 40 feet.

Leaves: Elliptical, pointed, Green and 12 inches long and 4 inches wide.

Flowers: Small, white, fragrant and bell-shaped.

Fruit: Brown, oval, and can grow up to 6 inches.

DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT

The Sapota plant is native to Central and South America, as well as the Caribbean. As a cultivated species, the sapodilla tree is medium-sized and slow-growing.

CULTIVATION AND USES

Sapodilla plants prefer well-drained soil and full sun to partial shade. The fruit is eaten fresh, and made into products like jam, ice cream, smoothies.

INTERESTING FACTS

Sapodilla has been cultivated for over 4,000 years, with evidence of its existence found in ancient Mayan and Aztec civilizations.