

***Sandoricum koetjape* (Santol)**

It is known as the Santol or Red Santol, is a tropical tree species native to Southeast Asia.

Classification

Kingdom: Plantae

Family: Meliaceae

Genus: *Sandoricum*

Species: *koetjape*

PHYSICAL CHARACTERS

Stem: Large tree, up to 40 meters tall. Straight trunk with smooth, gray bark.

Leaves: Compound leaves with 3-5 leaflets.

Flower: Small, greenish-yellow flowers in clusters.

Fruit: Red or yellowish berry, 2-3 cm in diameter.



ECOLOGICAL ROLE AND USE

Provides food and habitat for various animals and birds. Shade tree in tropical forests. Soil stabilizer and nutrient cycler. Timber for furniture-making and construction. Fruit is edible and consumed locally. Traditional medicine for various ailments.

INTERESTING FACT

Sandoricum koetjape is considered a "keystone species" in some ecosystems, it plays a unique and crucial role in maintaining the structure and function of its environment.