

## ***Tectona grandis* (Teak)**

Division: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Lamiales

Family: Lamiaceae

Genus: *Tectona*

Species: *grandis*



### **PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

**Trunk:** Straight, cylindrical, columnar and can grow up to 130 feet.

**Leaves:** Large, oval shaped and pointed.

**Wood:** Golden-brown to dark brown in colour, very hard and durable.

**Fruits:** Small, brown and egg-shaped containing 4-6 seeds

**Flowers:** Small, white and fragrant.

### **DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT**

Most of the teak plantations are found in Indonesia, India and Southeast Asia and it takes 50-60 years to mature. Found in climatic conditions from arid areas with only 500 mm of rain per year to very moist forests with up to 5,000 mm of rain per year.

### **CULTIVATION AND USES**

Teak wood is highly valued for furniture. The wood is exported globally and earning foreign exchange for producing countries. Its wood can last for decades, even centuries with proper care.

### **INTERESTING FACTS**

Teak wood contains a high amount of oil, making it resistant to water and moisture.