



BUTTER TREE

General Details	
Reference	https://biophilia.lk/database/plant/butter-tree
Scientific Name	<i>Madhuca longifolia</i>
Sinhala Name	?? (MEE)
Tamil Name	??????? (ILUPPAI MARAM)
Other Common Names	Honey Tree Indian Butter Tree
Synonyms	
Plant Family	Sapotaceae
Plant Group	Angiosperms (Enclosed Seed)
Plant Types	Medium Tree Large Trees
Morphologies / Crown Architecture	Spreading Canopy Oval Canopy Round Canopy Upright Narrow Canopy

Categories	Agricultural plants Aquatic Ecosystem Plants Bird Attractive Plants Common Landscaping Plants Cooking Plants Courtyard Plants Dark Green Plants Dry Zone Plants Edible Plants Forest Trees Fruiting Plants Herbal Plants Intermediate Zone Plants Large Trees Low Country Low Maintenance Plants Medium Size Trees Native plants Ornamental Plants Roadside Plants Seasonal Plant Shady Plants Fast Growing Plants Sun Loving Plants Trees Wetland Plants Wild Plants
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Native Regions	Indian Subcontinent
Distributions	E. Asia - India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Myanmar.
Habitat	Wet, marshy areas and on riverbanks and Banks of streams
Elevation	Above sea level up to 1,200 m
Average Height	14 - 16m
Maximum Height	16m
Average Width	5m
Maximum Width	15m
Root Systems	Tap Root
Propagations	By Seeds
Indoor	N/A
Medicinal Use	Yes
Medicinal Value	Bark, Seed, and Heartwood are used as treatments for Urticaria, Fracture, Snake-bite poisoning, Rheumatism, Skin diseases, and Glandular swelling in the neck & throat in Sinhala Ayurveda
Special Features	Flower, Fruit, Leaves, Oil are edible The fragrant fleshy flowers can be eaten raw or cooked Nectar is used as a sweetener and a source of sugar Both the ripe and the unripe fruit can be eaten Can be dried for later use Use for carbon farming The fat (solid at ambient temperature) is used for the care of the skin, to manufacture soap or detergents, and as a vegetable butter.
Foliage	
Leaf / Habit	Deciduous

Leaf Shape	Obtuse shape
Arrangements	Simple
Leaf Arrangement	Alternate leaf arrangement
Leaves	Leaf: Evergreen/ Semi Evergreen Leaves: 12-23 cm long, 4-12 cm broad; petiole short; pinkish or reddish-brown in color
Flowering	
Is Flowering ?	Yes
Blossoms	Fleshy, in dense fascicles near the end of branches; pedicles slender, drooping near the end of branches; live for only one night and then fall to the ground
Blooming Season	March; April; May
Fruiting	
Bears Fruits ?	Yes
Fruit	Ovate, 2.5-5 cm long, green, yellowish when ripened
Fruiting Season	May; June; July
Seeds	Seeds 1-4 crustaceous
Maintenance	
Level	Medium

Soil Types	<p>Sandy Soil</p> <p>Clay Soil</p> <p>Loam Soil</p> <p>Acidic (pH 5.5>) to Moderately Alkaline (pH 7.9 - 8.4)</p> <p>Well Drained Soil</p>
Water	Medium/Moderate
Sunlight	Full
Edibility	
Is Edible ?	N/A
Legal Status	
Flora Fauna Protection Ordinance 2009 Amendment, Sri Lanka	Not Evaluated