



Citrus medica



Kingdom: Plantae
Clade: Angiosperms
Order: Sapindales
Family: Rutaceae
Genus: Citrus
Species: *C. medica*

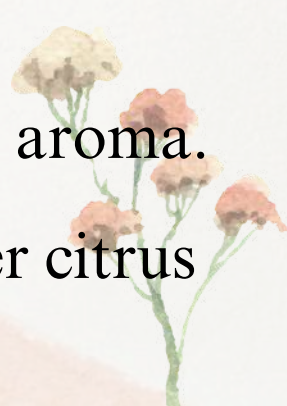
Citrus medica is one of the oldest cultivated citrus fruits, believed to have originated in India or Southeast Asia. It is often referred to as the citron, and is a key ancestor of many other citrus varieties. While not as commonly consumed as other citrus fruits due to its thick rind and pulpy flesh, it holds significant cultural and historical importance.


Characteristic Features

Size: A medium-sized tree or shrub.

Leaves: Large, oval-shaped leaves with a distinct aroma.

Flowers: White, fragrant flowers similar to other citrus varieties.





Fruit: Large, thickskinned fruit with a bumpy surface. The flesh is pulpy and acidic, with few seeds.

Uses

Culinary: While the fruit itself is not widely consumed, the rind is used in various cuisines, including Indian, Middle Eastern, and Jewish. It is candied, preserved, or used to flavor dishes and beverages

Medicinal: Citron has been used in traditional medicine for centuries. It is believed to have digestive, antiinflammatory, and antimicrobial properties.

Religious Significance: Citron holds significant religious importance in some cultures, including Judaism (used during Sukkot) and Hinduism (used in rituals).

Perfumery: The essential oil extracted from citron rind is used in perfumery.

