

Millettia pinnata

Kingdom: Plantae
Clade: Tracheophytes
Order: Fabales
Family: Fabaceae
Genus: Millettia
Species: *M. pinnata*
Scientific Name: *Millettia pinnata* (also known as *Pongamia pinnata*)



Common Indian Names:

Hindi: Karanj, Pongam
Tamil: Pongu, Pungai
Malayalam: Punnappayin
Telugu: Kanuga
Kannada: Honge
Marathi: Karanj
Bengali: Karanja

Uses:

1. Medicinal Uses:

The seeds, bark, leaves, and roots are used in traditional medicine.

Known for treating skin diseases, wounds, ulcers, rheumatism, and gastrointestinal issues.

Oil from the seeds, known as Karanja oil, is used for treating skin diseases and as an antiseptic.

2. Agricultural and Environmental Uses:

Used in agroforestry for nitrogen fixation, improving soil fertility.

Acts as a biofuel source; Karanja oil can be processed into biodiesel.

The tree is used for erosion control and as a windbreak.

3. Other Uses:

Wood is used for making tools, posts, and furniture.

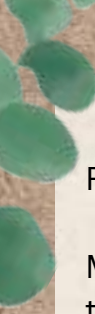
Leaves and seed cake are used as green manure and animal feed.

General Features:

Leaves: Pinnate, with 59 leaflets, dark green and glossy, each leaflet 510 cm long.

Bark: Greyish brown, rough, and fissured.

Fruits: Pods that are flat and elliptical, 57 cm long, containing 12 seeds.



Flowers: Small, fragrant, purple, or pink, borne in racemes.

Height: Can grow up to 1525 meters (about 4982 feet) tall.

Millettia pinnata, commonly known as Pongamia or Indian Beech, is a valuable tree in many tropical and subtropical regions. Its wide range of uses, from traditional medicine to biofuel production, highlights its economic and ecological importance. Its ability to thrive in various environments and improve soil health makes it a key species in sustainable agriculture and environmental management.

