

## Mimusops elengi

Kingdom: Plantae (Plants)  
Order: Ericales  
Family: Sapotaceae  
Genus: Mimusops  
Species: Mimusops elengi



Mimusops elengi, commonly known as Spanish cherry, bullet wood, or Bakul, is a medium sized evergreen tree native to tropical forests in South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Northern Australia.

### Common Names

In India and various regions, Mimusops elengi is known by different names, including:

**Bakul:** This is a widely recognized name in India.

**Magizham:** Used in Tamil Nadu.

**Maulsari:** Commonly referred to in Hindi.

**Medlar:** Sometimes referred to in English literature.

### Characteristic Features

**Leaves:** Glossy, dark green, and elliptical shaped leaves that are leathery in texture.

**Flowers:** Small, white, highly fragrant flowers that bloom in clusters. The fragrance is often compared to jasmine.

**Fruit:** The fruit is berrylike, initially green and turning yellow or orange when ripe. It is edible and sweet.

**Bark:** The bark is greyish brown and smooth.

**Wood:** The wood is hard, dense, and durable, suitable for various uses.

### Uses

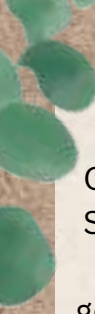
**Medicinal:** Various parts of the tree, including bark, leaves, flowers, and seeds, are used in traditional medicine for treating dental issues, skin diseases, and gastrointestinal problems.

**Culinary:** The fruit is edible and sometimes used in local cuisine, often as a flavoring or eaten fresh.

**Ornamental:** Due to its attractive flowers and glossy leaves, Mimusops elengi is planted as an ornamental tree in gardens and along roadsides.

**Religious and Cultural Significance:** The flowers are used in religious ceremonies and as offerings in various cultures, particularly in India.

### Cultivation



Climate: Prefers tropical and subtropical climates.

Soil: Thrives in well-drained soil but can tolerate various soil types.

Propagation: Typically propagated by seeds, which should be sown fresh for optimal germination rates.

Mimusops elengi holds cultural, medicinal, and ornamental significance in many regions where it grows.

