

Licania tomentosa (*Moquilea tomentosa*)



Kingdom: Plantae
Phylum: Tracheophyta
Class: Magnoliopsida
Order: Malpighiales
Family: Chrysobalanaceae
Genus: Moquilea

The current accepted name for the tree is *Moquilea tomentosa*. It's a flowering plant in the Chrysobalanaceae family, native to most of Brazil.

General Features:

- *Moquilea tomentosa* is a medium-sized to large tree, reaching heights of up to 30 meters (98 feet).
- Leaves are simple, elliptical to obovate, and glossy green on the upper surface with a hairy underside.
- Flowers are small, white, and clustered in racemes.
- Fruits are small, round, and black, with a single seed.



Uses:

- *Moquilea tomentosa* is widely cultivated for its abundant fruit, which is eaten fresh, dried, or processed into juice and jams.
 - The wood is strong and durable, used for construction, furniture, and other applications.
- The tree is also planted as an ornamental and shade tree.

Additional Information:

- *Moquilea tomentosa* is relatively fast-growing and can reach maturity in 10-15 years.
- The tree is drought-tolerant and can survive in poor soils.
- It is an important source of food and income for many people in South America.