



Scientific Name	<i>Chrysophyllum cainito</i> L.
Common Names	Star apple, golden-leaf tree , caimito, estrella, caimo morado, caimito maduraverde , ajara , caimite, caimitier , സുവർണ്ണപത്രിക
Family	Sapotaceae
Plant description	It has smooth, dark brown branches that often bear spines and narrow, light green leaves that are silvery on the undersides from a covering of minute scales. The flowers are small, greenish, fragrant, and silvery-scaled on the outside, as are the edible, olive-shaped, yellowish fruits, which are sweet but mealy. The leaves are nearly evergreen with an oblong-elliptic shape, slightly leathery to the touch, rich green, and glossy on the upper surface, coated with silky, with golden-brown pubescence beneath. Flowers are small in cluster in the axils of the leaves. The fruits are very sweet, with a pulpy, jelly-like texture and a taste some compare to applesauce with hints of tropical fruits and grape.
Distribution	<i>Chrysophyllum cainito</i> is native to the Isthmus of Panama. It has spread to the Greater Antilles and the West Indies and is now grown throughout the tropics, including Southeast Asia.
Uses	Leaves are applied as a poultice to wounds and taken orally as a decoction for hypoglycaemia. Fruits are used in treating haemorrhage and cooked and used for fever. Bark, latex and seeds are also used for medicinal purposes. It is used for curing diabetes and fighting against bacterial, fungal, and viral infections.
Flowering and fruiting time	Flowering time is from July-August. Seedling trees bear in 5 to 10 years, whereas vegetatively propagated trees may begin fruit production in 1 to 2 years.