



Scientific name	<i>Madhuca indica</i>
Common name	Butter tree or Mahua
Family	Sapotaceae
Plant description	<i>Madhuca indica</i> is a slow-growing species and forms a major part of the Indian forest tree belonging to the Sapotaceae family . It is known by familiar names such as Mahua, and Mohwa in North India and Illipi in the southern part of India. The tree can shoot up to the height of 8–20 m . The tree grows well with annual precipitation ranging from 550 to 1500 mm and a temperature of 2–46 °C . It grows well on deep loamy and sandy-loam soil and clayey, calcareous soil and grows up to an altitude of 1200–4500 m. The leaves of <i>Madhuca indica</i> are deep oblong shaped, thick, and firm green in color. The flowers are fleshy, creamy, and clustered at the ends of the branches The circumference of the fruit is ovoid shaped which is 3–5 cm long and consists of 1–4 shiny brown seeds
Distribution	<i>Madhuca indica</i> is a tropical tree found in almost all parts of the Indian subcontinent and the forests of Myanmar, Sri Lanka, and Nepal . <i>Madhuca indica</i> (Mahua) oil is a non-edible oil extracted from the mahua tree. <i>Madhuca indica</i> (latifolia) and <i>Madhuca longifolia</i> (longifolia) are the most available species in India . The tree has huge seed and oil potential of about 500,000 t and 180,000 t, respectively only in India . <i>Madhuca indica</i> is frost-resistant and is grown in dry tropical and subtropical forests at elevations of 1200–1800 m .

Uses	<p>Medicinal Properties Hepatoprotective, Wound healing, Antburns, Bone healing, Emollient, Skin disease, Rheumatism, Headache, Laxative, Anti- Haemorrhoids, Bronchitis, Anti-ulcer, Astringent, Tonsillitis, Swelling gum, Diabetes, Stomach-ache, Anti snake bite, Increasing milk production in lactating women, Diuretic, Etc ...</p>
Flowering and fruting time	<p>The flowering season extends from February to April. The copious fall of succulent, corollas weave a cream coloured carpet on the ground. Mahua flower is rich in sugar (73%) and next to cane molasses constitute the most important raw material for alcohol fermentation. The yield of 95% alcohol is 405 liters from one ton of dried flowers.</p> <p><b>Fruiting:</b> The matured fruits fall on the ground in May and July in the North India and August and September in the South India. The orange brown ripe fleshy berry is 25 to 50 mm long and contains one to four shining seeds. The seeds can be separated from the fruit wall by pressing. Drying and decortications yield 70% kernels on the weight of seeds.</p>