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DIST-SANGLI (MAHARASHTRA) INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF DRAVYAGUNA



KADAMBA

Marathi Name: Kadamb

Botanical Name: Neolamarckia cadamba

Synonyms: Anthocephalus cadamba (Roxb.) Miq

Family: Rubiaceae (Coffee family)
Common Name: Kadam burflower-tree,

Description: A fully mature tree can reach up to 45 m in height. It is a large tree with a broad crown and straight cylindrical bole. It is quick growing, with broad spreading branches and grows rapidly in the first 6–8 years. The trunk has a diameter of 100–160 cm, but typically less than that. Leaves are 13–32 cm (5.1–12.6 in) long. Flowering usually begins when the tree is 4–5 years old.

Its <u>flowers</u> are sweetly fragrant, red to orange in color, occurring in dense, globular heads of approximately 5.5 cm diameter. The fruit of N. cadamba occur in small, fleshy capsules packed closely together to form a fleshy yellow-orange infructescence containing approximately 8000 seeds. On maturing, the fruit splits apart, releasing the seeds, which are then dispersed by wind or rain. Stamens 5, inserted on the corolla tube, filaments short, anthers basifixed. Ovary inferior, <u>bi-locular</u>, sometimes 4-locular in the upper part, style exerted and a spindle-shaped stigma. Fruitlets numerous with their upper parts containing 4 hollow or solid structures. Seed trigonal or irregularly shaped.

Attributes: Rasa-Tikta, Kashay, Veerya-Sheeta, Vipak – Katu, Guna-Ruksha, Guru.

Medicinal uses: In India, Kadam tree leaves are used from the ancient times to reduce the pain and inflammation by tying them to the inflamed parts using a cloth. A regular use of Kadam is highly beneficial for the patients suffering from diabetes mellitus. It is a metabolic disorder characterized by increased levels of blood sugar due to the alterations in the metabolism of carbohydrates In folk traditions, the Neolmarckiacadamba paste was used as an antimicrobial agent to treat skin diseases. The extracts of the Kadam fruit and leaves possess antioxidant properties.