

Derris robusta

(Roxb. ex DC.) Benth.

Fabaceae - Papilionoideae

LOCAL NAMES

Hindi (korai); Indonesian (kedusan); Thai (kheemoot (Saraburi));
Vietnamese (c[os]c k[ef]n m[aj]nh)

BOTANIC DESCRIPTION

A tree up to 20(-25) m tall, with bole up to 30(-65) cm in diameter, tops of branches finely pubescent.

Leaflets (7-)11-31, puberulous on both surfaces when young but often glabrescent above.

Inflorescence axillary, flowers with densely adpressed pubescent calyx and whitish or pale pink corolla, standard without basal callosities.

Fruit strap-shaped, with a wing along one side.

BIOLOGY

ECOLOGY

In Java, *D. robusta* occurs in deciduous forest, especially teak forest.

BIOPHYSICAL LIMITS

Altitude: 50-750 m, Mean annual rainfall: 700-3000 mm, Mean annual temperature: 18-29 deg.C

Soil type: The species will grow in shallow and infertile soils.

DOCUMENTED SPECIES DISTRIBUTION

Native: Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam

Exotic:



The map above shows countries where the species has been planted. It does neither suggest that the species can be planted in every ecological zone within that country, nor that the species can not be planted in other countries than those depicted. Since some tree species are invasive, you need to follow biosafety procedures that apply to your planting site.

PRODUCTS

Fodder: The leaves may serve as fodder.

Timber: The wood of *D. robusta* is pale brown, with heartwood not distinctly demarcated from the sapwood. It is hard and heavy; the density is about 850 kg/m cubic at 15% moisture content. The wood is used in India for e.g. tea chests, and locally in Java for handles of axes.

SERVICES

Shade or shelter: *D. robusta* is occasionally used as a shade tree.

Soil improver: *D. robusta* is occasionally used as a green manure.

TREE MANAGEMENT

GERMPLASM MANAGEMENT

Seed storage behaviour is orthodox.

PESTS AND DISEASES

FURTHER READNG

Brandis D. 1978. Indian trees: An account of trees, shrubs, woody climbers, bamboos and palms indigenous or commonly cultivated in the British India empire. London. 767pp.

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Huq AM, 1986. Plant names of Bangladesh. Bangladesh National Herbarium, Dhaka.

Malaysian Timber Industry Board, 1986. 100 Malaysian timbers. publ. 1987, 226pp.

Troup RS. 1975. The silviculture of Indian trees. ed. 2, vol. 2. Government of India.

SUGGESTED CITATION

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