

Hopea parviflora Bedd.

Family : Dipterocarpaceae

Parts Used : Wood

Vernacular Names

English : Iron wood of Malabar

Malayalam : Thampakam, Irumpakam, Kambakaml

Kannada : Kiralbogi

Tamil : Kongu, Vellaikongu, Pongu



Distribution and Habitat: Evergreen forest of Western Ghats

Botany: Erect branched magnificent, evergreen tree, stem 4 angled and shortly winged; bole straight; crown conical, when young like a flame. Bark smooth, mottled with brown and white when young, later it cracks and no white markings are seen, colour changing to rusty brown.

• **Leaves** : Sessile, simple, alternate, ovate-lanceolate, entire, and glabrous.

• **Flowers**: Many, creamy yellow, scented and about 0.5 cm diameter, 4-merous in terminal and axillary dense cymes; bracts foliaceous; pedicels short. Calyx 4 angled or terete, lobes unequal. Corolla 5, tubular, lobes subequal. Stamens: 1 perfect, 3 sterile or absent. Style short, stigma 2 lobed. Ovary trigonous each contains 2 ovules.

• **Fruits**: Straw coloured, nut-like, about 1 cm long, ovoid, apiculate, enclosed in the calyx lobes, 2- winged, 1-seed.

Properties: Antioxidant

Chemical constituents: stilbenoids and resveratrol in bark. Leaves contain phenolics.

Uses: Wood is white ant proof and is useful for beams and rafters; also for railway sleepers.

Propagation: By seed.

