

## Family Meliaceae

# *Xylocarpus granatum* Koen.

**Local names:** *tabigi*, *tambigi*



FORM & ROOT



ARRANGEMENT



INFLORESCENCE

Medium trees up to 17 m tall, found along estuarine rivers and tidal creeks, whose low buttresses extend as distinctive, snakelike plank roots. *Xylocarpus granatum* is also found in higher intertidal, inner mangroves as part of a mixed community that includes, among others *X. moluccensis*, *C. decandra*, and *B. cylindrica*. It has compound leaves which are shed in some trees, and big brown globose fruits with 10-12 irregularly shaped seeds. The smooth, light brown to greenish outer bark flakes off (see opposite, bottom left photo); the inner bark is red and a source of dye for tanning. Oil from seeds is used for lamps and for grooming hair, the fruits and seeds are used to treat diarrhea, and a bark decoction for cholera. Described as the best and most beautiful cabinet wood, its fine, glossy texture is suitable for furniture. It was also used for poles, railroad ties, posts and beams.



### General

Substrate: hard mud  
Tidal level: middle  
Found with: *B. cylindrica*,  
*N. fruticans*,  
*X. moluccensis*

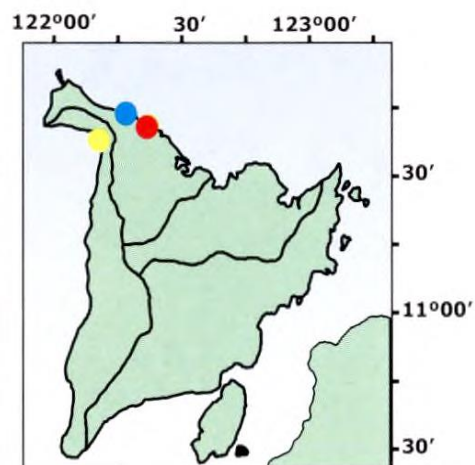
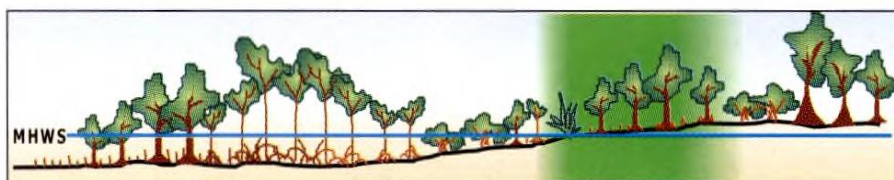
### Form

Shape: tree  
Height: 3-17 m  
DBH: 10-70 cm  
Bark: smooth, light brown;  
thin flakes  
Aerial roots: low buttresses, plank  
or ribbon

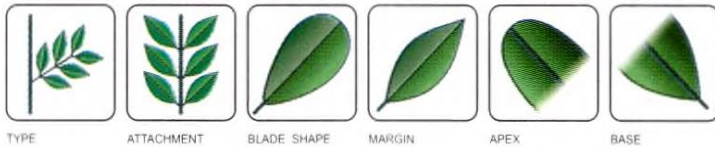
Sampling sites: ● Ibajay, Aklan  
● Makato River, Aklan  
● Pandan, Antique

FLOWERING J F M A M J J A S O N D

FRUITING J F M A M J J A S O N D







## Leaves

- Arrangement: paripinnate compound, opposite
- Blade shape: obovate
- Margin: entire - smooth
- Apex: round to emarginate
- Base: acute
- Upper surface: smooth, dark green
- Undersurface: smooth, light green
- Size: 12 (7-19) cm long, 6 (4-9) cm wide
- Others: 2-3 pairs of leaflets; sometimes deciduous

## Flowers

- Inflorescence: panicle, axillary (a few terminal)
- Petals: 4, white
- Calyx: 4, lobed, yellowish green
- Stamen: tubular
- Size: 1.1-1.2 cm long, 1.1-1.4 cm diameter
- Others: unisexual

## Fruits

- Shape: like cannon ball or bowling ball
- Color: green to brown
- Texture: smooth to slightly rough
- Size: 8-13 cm high, 8-14 cm diameter
- Others: 10-12 irregularly-shaped seeds





## Family Meliaceae

# *Xylocarpus moluccensis* (Lam.) M. Roem.

Local names: *piagao*, *lagutlot*



FORM & ROOT



ARRANGEMENT



INFLORESCENCE

Smaller trees on the firm substrate of back mangroves rarely appearing along the edges of rivers or creeks; they are also identified as *X. mekongensis*. Their low-salinity habitats overlap with those of *X. granatum*, but *X. moluccensis* has smaller pointed leaves; dark, rough and fissured bark; peg- or cone-shaped pneumatophores; and smaller, dark green fruits. The species is deciduous – the leaves turn golden brown to red then drop (see opposite, bottom left photo); the new leaves appear together with the short-lived flowers. Seeds were used for insect bites, diarrhea and as astringent, the fruits for diarrhea, and the bark as astringent. Past uses of the wood were as poles, railroad ties, posts, beams and for interior finish, musical instruments and high grade furniture. The royal throne of the king of Malaysia is made of *X. moluccensis* wood because of its fine grain and deep dark color.



### General

Substrate: hard mud  
Tidal level: middle  
Found with: *B. cylindrica*,  
*N. fruticans*,  
*R. apiculata*,  
*X. granatum*

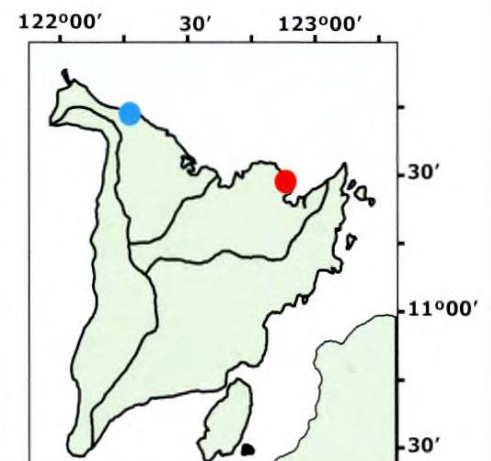
### Form

Shape: tree  
Height: 3-10 m  
DBH: 10-50 cm  
Bark: rough, dark brown;  
fissured  
Aerial roots: cone or peg roots  
arising from cable roots

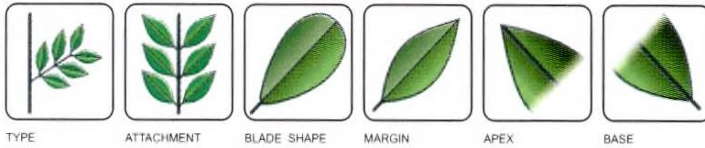
Sampling sites: ● Ibajay, Aklan  
● Pan-ay, Capiz

FLOWERING J F M A M J J A S O N D

FRUITING J F M A M J J A S O N D







## Leaves

- Arrangement: paripinnate compound, opposite
- Blade shape: elliptical
- Margin: entire - smooth
- Apex: acute
- Base: acute
- Upper surface: smooth, green
- Undersurface: smooth, light green
- Size: 8 (5-12) cm long, 4 (2.5) cm wide
- Others: usually with 3-4 pairs of leaflets; deciduous

## Flowers

- Inflorescence: panicle, mainly axillary
- Petals: 4, white
- Calyx: 4, lobed, pale yellow-green
- Stamen: fused, white
- Size: 0.6-0.7 cm long, 0.9-1.0 cm diameter
- Others: unisexual

## Fruits

- Shape: like small cannon ball
- Color: light green
- Texture: smooth to slightly rough
- Size: 8-9 cm high, 9-10 cm diameter

