

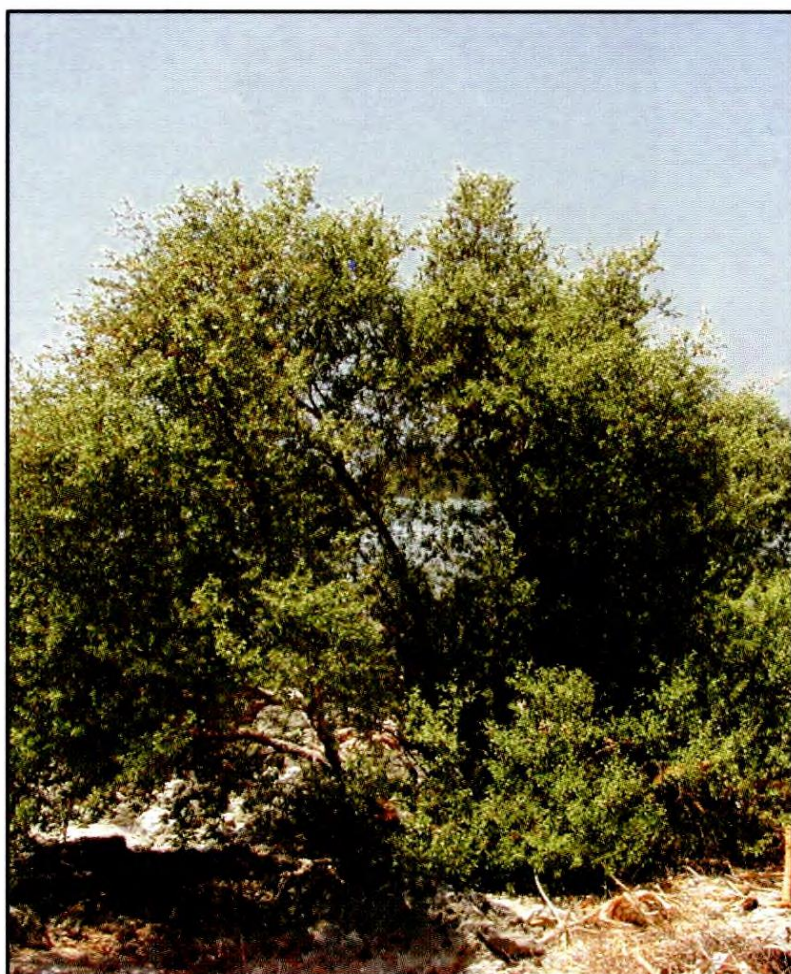
Family Lythraceae

Pemphis acidula J.R. Forst. and G. Forst.

Local names: *bantigi*



Shrubs 3-5 m tall, along the high tide line of coralline-rocky and sandy foreshores, often in association with *O. octodonta* and *A. floridum*. It has irregularly shaped branches, small leaves, and small white flowers. Distribution in Panay is limited to small stands in Carles, Iloilo; Taklong Island, Guimaras; and Anini-y, Antique. The twigs are used for fuel and also as fish-aggregating devices, like *O. octodonta*. Wood of *Pemphis acidula* is very hard and strong, hence it is used in house and fence construction. Because of its small size and sturdy nature, the species is a favorite material of *bonsai* enthusiasts (see opposite, bottom left photo). Some ten years ago, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources confiscated specimens collected from Nogas Is., Antique which were to be smuggled to Taiwan and sold at Philippine Pesos (Php) 2,000 per plant.



General

Substrate: sandy, coralline
Tidal level: high
Found with: *O. octodonta*,
A. floridum

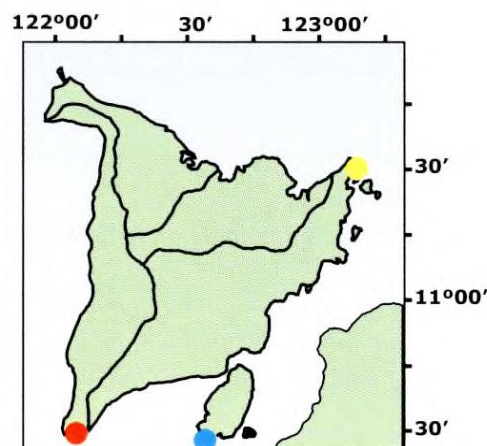
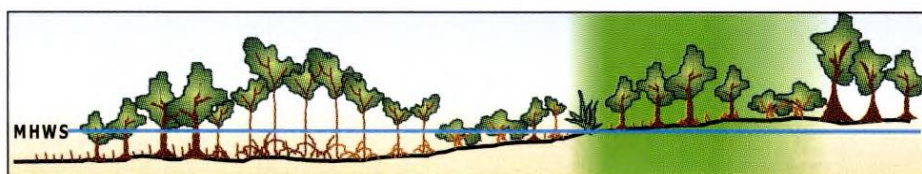
Form

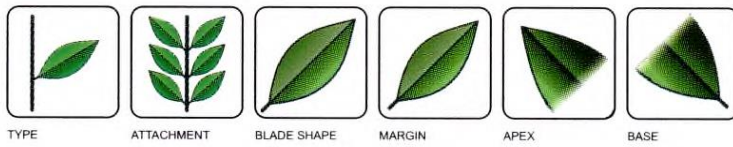
Shape: shrub, tree
Height: 3-5 m
DBH: 5-12 cm
Bark: rough, grayish brown;
with large lenticels
Aerial roots: not prominent

Sampling sites: ● Taklong Is., Guimaras
● Anini-y, Antique
● Carles, Iloilo

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: simple, opposite, decussate
 Blade shape: elliptical
 Margin: entire - smooth
 Apex: acute to obtuse
 Base: acute
 Upper surface: velvety, pale green
 Undersurface: velvety, whitish green
 Size: 2-3 cm long,
 1 cm wide
 Others: covered with minute hairs

Flowers

Inflorescence: single, axillary
 Petals: 6, white
 Sepals: 12, fused
 Stamens: 12
 Size: 0.7-1 cm long,
 0.9-1.8 cm diameter

Fruits

Shape: capsule
 Color: brown
 Texture: smooth
 Size: 0.4-0.9 cm long,
 0.3-0.6 cm diameter
 Others: fruit encased in a bell-like structure

