*Spondias mombin*

*Common names: English: Caja fruit.*

*Ecology:* Native to the tropical [Americas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Americas), including the [West Indies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West_Indies). The tree has been [naturalized](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Naturalisation_(biology)) in parts of Uganda, but is rarely grown

*Uses: Firewood, Food, fruit, oil, traditional medicine*

*Description:* a small deciduous tree up to 20 m (66 ft) high and 1.5 m (4.9 ft) in girth, moderately buttressed. BARK: thick, corky, and deeply fissured. When slashed, it is pale pink, darkening rapidly. LEAVES: pinnate, with 5-8 leaflets opposite pairs with a terminal leaflet, 10 cm × 5 cm (4 in × 2 in), oblong or oblong lanceolate, broadly acuminate, glabrous. FLOWERS: bloom January to May and are sweet-scented, in large, lax terminal panicles of small white flowers. FRUIT: appears July to September and is nearly 4 cm (1.5 in) long, ovoid yellow, acid, wrinkled when dry. The fruits have a sharp, somewhat acid taste and are edible. Their flesh surrounds a single spiny kernel.

Propagation: Seedlings, widlings.

Seed: The seed is contained inside the fruit and has an oil content of 31.5%

Management: Coppicing

Remarks: This tree is also known as hog plum. In [Thailand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thailand) this fruit is called makok and is used in [*som tam*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Som_tam) as a secondary ingredient. In traditional medicine, the fruit has been used as a [diuretic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diuretic) and [febrifuge](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Febrifuge)