

The Plants of Western Ghats

Vol 1 & 2

by

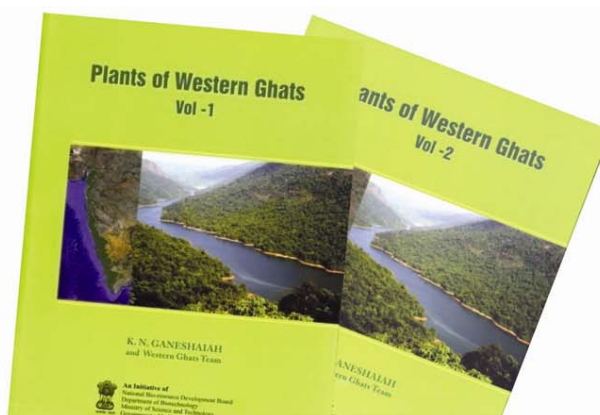
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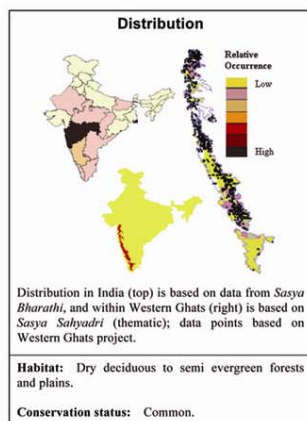
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Sample species page

Butea monosperma (Lam.) Taub.



Flame of the forest



Taxonomy

Synonyms: *Erythrina monosperma* Lam.
Plaso monosperma (Lam.) Kuntze
Plaso monosperma (Lam.)
Kuntze var. *flava* Kuntze
Butea braamiana DC.
Butea frondosa Roxb. ex Willd. nom. illeg.
Rudolphia frondosa Poir. nom. illeg.

Family: Fabaceae

Local names Flame of the forest (Eng.), Muttugada mara (Kan.), Palas (Hin.), Chamatha (Mal.), Bramhapadapa (San.).

Characters: Deciduous, tomentose tree up to 8 m. Leaflets rhomboid or broadly ovate, obtuse or retuse. Flowers showy, flame coloured, 6 cm long. Pod distinctly stalked, rounded at apex.

Flowering: January–May.

Distribution: Throughout India [Asia: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; Oceanic Islands: Mauritius; Australasia; North America: Caribbean Islands].

Uses: The exudate of gum and seeds is used in local medicine. Leaves for making platters, cups for wrapping food.