

# *Terminalia catappa*

Family – Combretaceae

Genus – *Terminalia*

Species – *T. catappa*

Habit – Tree

Common names- Indian almond,  
Java almond, Malbar almond.

Location- M.G.V.C. Arts, Commerce  
Science college, Muddebihal.



*Terminalia catappa*-commonly called the tropical almond or Indian almond is a majestic tree that can reach up to **35 m in height**. Young trees display a straight, symmetrical form with branches spreading horizontally. As they mature, the canopy expands and flattens into a wider, vase-shaped structure, with branches arranged in noticeable tiers. The leaves are large, glossy, ovoid, and leathery dropping seasonally after turning shades of pinkish-red or yellow-brown. This monoecious species bears separate male and female flowers on the same plant; the blooms are small, white to pale green, petal-less, and appear on spikes at the leaf axils or branch tips. The tree produces a drupe-style fruit that starts off green, ripens to yellow, and eventually turns red. *T. catappa* is commonly grown as an ornamental tree for the substantial, cooling shade its broad leaves offer. Its wood is a solid, red timber known for its excellent resistance to water, making it valuable in construction and boat-building. The leaves frequently used in herbal medicine.