

CEDAR MANGROVE

(Xylocarpus mekongensis)



The Cedar mangrove is closely related to the Cannonball Mangrove and both are related to the Red Cedar Tree of the tropical rainforest. The Cedar Mangrove can grow to about 20 metres tall.

Roots

The thick, flat, peg type above ground roots around the base of the trunk can grow up to 400mm in height

Leaves

Leaves are compound, arranged in opposite pairs. The dark green leaves have a thickened base where they meet the stem. This allows the leaves to either face or avoid the sun. Mature trees are partially deciduous in late winter and they may appear to be dead or dying during this time.

Flowers

September – October
Small, creamy-pink flowers

Fruit

December - February
Fruit is cannon-ball shaped and approximately the size of an orange. They contain 8-16 tightly packed, irregularly-shaped seeds.

Bark

Bark is pale grayish- brown with deep cracks. It peels off in longitudinal flakes or scales.

Similar species

The Cannonball Mangrove has similar leaves but it is buttressed at the base with ribbon or plank roots. Its fruit is larger and its bark is smooth and pale.

Location

Found on river banks and on the landward edge of marine mangrove forests.

