

Spanish Cherry

Botanical Name: *Mimusops elengi*

Family: Sapotaceae

Common Name: Bakul

Hindi Name: मौलसरी

Part Used: Bark, leaves, flowers, fruit, and seeds

Mimusops elengi is an evergreen tree with a dense, rounded, spreading crown; it usually grows from 15 - 30 meters tall, exceptionally to 40 meters. The bole is often short and divided into several large main branches, but it is sometimes branchless for up to 15 or even 20 meters; it can be up to 100cm in diameter, with buttresses either absent or up to 2 meters high. It is found in tropical forests in South Asia, Southeast Asia and northern Australia. English common names include Spanish cherry. Its timber is valuable, the fruit is edible, and it is used in traditional medicine. As the trees give thick shade and flowers emit fragrance, it is a prized collection of gardens. It is used as an ornamental tree in many places. The flowers may also be used in natural perfume. Its bark, fruit, and flowers have been traditionally used to treat various ailments, and the tree itself provides shade, timber, and fuel. In Ayurveda, this plant is used to cure a wide variety of medical conditions, including toothache, headache, poisoning, oral cavity issues, diarrhoea, and more. Gum health can be improved by using the herb's seed coat or bark. Parts of the plant, including the bark, flowers, fruit, root and leaves, have been used for treating conditions like Cure gum, teeth, liver, headache, asthma, gonorrhoea, chronic dysentery, analgesic and antipyretic, antinociceptive, diuretic, gastroprotective, antibacterial, antifungal, anticariogenic, free radical scavenging and antihyperglycemic.