

Drumstick Tree

Common name: Drumstick Tree, Horseradish Tree

Botanical name: *Moringa oleifera*

Family: Moringaceae

Name in Tamil: *Murungai*



Field identification: Small to medium sized deciduous tree with corky pale brown and fissured bark up to 15m. Leaves alternate, 30-90 cm, thrice compound, leathery, leaf stalk swollen at base. Flowers creamish, 2.5cm across, in clusters. Fruit long 22.5 x 1.5-2 cm, green, hanging downwards, ribbed slightly, constricted between seeds

Location on campus: in residential compounds

References: (i) Sahni, K.C. (1998) The Book of Indian Trees. Mumbai: Bombay Natural History Society/ Oxford University Press. p73-76. (ii) Flowers of India. www.flowersofindia.net