

Lettuce Tree

Common name: Lettuce tree, Bird-Lime Tree, Bird catcher Tree

Botanical name: *Pisonia umbellifera*

Family: Nyctaginaceae

Name in Tamil: ?



Field identification: Erect shrub or small tree without spines. Bark grey, smooth. Leaves alternate, opposite or clustered, blade mostly elliptic, 6-20 cm long, 4-10 cm wide, soft, hairless, leaf-stalk 2-5 cm long. The tree rarely flowers in India. Flowers in terminal leafless cyme-like panicles, greenish white. Fruit is 2-4 cm long, 5-ribbed, sticky.

Location on campus: Trees in CHTC, shrubs in residential gardens

References: Flowers of India. <http://www.flowersofindia.net>