

South Indian Soapnut

Common name: South Indian Soapnut, South Indian Ritha; **Botanical name:** *Sapindus emarginatus* ;

Family: Sapindaceae; **Name in Tamil:** Ponam-Kottai, Manipungan maram, Poovandikotta



Field identification: Tree with a spreading crown. Bark rough, grey, peels off. Leaves compound, alternate, leaflets 2-3 pairs, sub-opposite, terminal pair longer, elliptic and sometimes notched at apex. Fruit fleshy drupes (stone fruit), 2-3, 1-3 cm diameter

Location on campus: Few. E.g. Behind Women's Hostel Chapel Wing, Mango Road, Brook Road

References:

1. Sahni, K.C. (1998) The Book of Indian Trees. Mumbai: Bombay Natural History Society/ Oxford University Press. p 61.
2. Flowers of India. <http://www.flowersofindia.com>