

Wild date palm

Common name: Wild date palm

Botanical name: *Phoenix sylvestris*

Family: Areaceae; **Name in Tamil:** *Inthupannai, kattinchu, Icham*



Field identification: Feather-leaved pal, evergreen, 4-15 m tall, 40 cm diameter with aerial roots at base and persistent leaf bases along trunk. Blue-green coloured pinnately compound leaves with lower leaflet modified into spines. Flowers tiny, creamy, yellow in clusters. Fruit olive-like green turning yellow orange.

Location: Scattered across campus; E.g. Stem Cell Centre, Mary Varghese Campus, Janatha Road, South Road, Scudder Crescent

References:

1. Sahni, K.C. (1998) *The Book of Indian Trees*. Mumbai: Bombay Natural History Society/ Oxford University Press.
2. Krishen P. (2006) *Trees of Delhi: A field guide*. Dorling Kindersley, New Delhi. p312-313.