

Comparison of Similar Looking Plants

Hopea odorata and *Hopea sangal*



Scientific name:

Hopea odorata

Common name: Chengal Pasir,
Chengal Mas

Family name: Dipterocarpaceae

Origin: Bangladesh, Andaman Islands,
Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam,
Thailand, Peninsular Malaysia

Conservation status: Non-native



Scientific name:

Hopea sangal

Common name: Mersiput, Chengal
Pasir, Merawan, Damar Siput

Family name: Dipterocarpaceae

Origin: Myanmar, Thailand, Peninsular
Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Borneo

Conservation status: Critically
Endangered

Character comparison

Mature
Foliage

<i>Hopea odorata</i>	<i>Hopea sangal</i>
• Usually larger (7 – 14 cm long and 3 – 7 cm wide) • Leaf shape can be ovate to ovate-lanceolate 	• Usually smaller (5.5 – 10 cm long and 3.5 – 5 cm wide) • Leaf shape can be ovate to lanceolate 

Character comparison

Mature
Foliage

Hopea odorata

- No hairs on the underside of the leaves



Hopea sangal

- Dense hairs on the underside of the leaves



Character comparison

Leaf
stalk

Hopea odorata

- Longer (1—1.6 cm long)
- No hairs



Hopea sangal

- Shorter (0.5—1 cm long)
- Covered with hairs



Character comparison

Young
twigs

Hopea odorata

- No hairs



Hopea sangal

- Covered with hairs

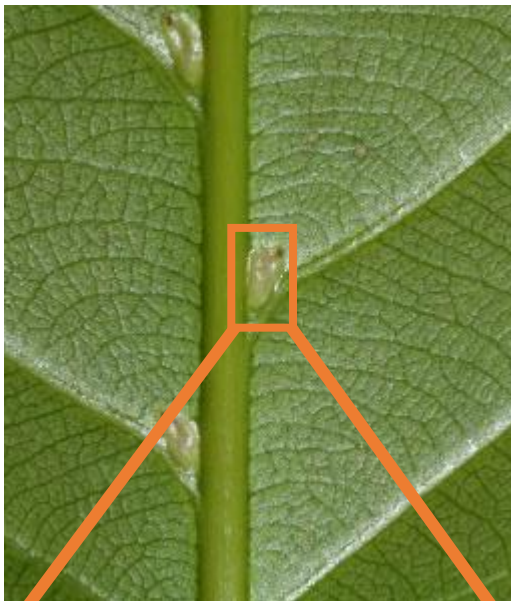


Character comparison

Domatia

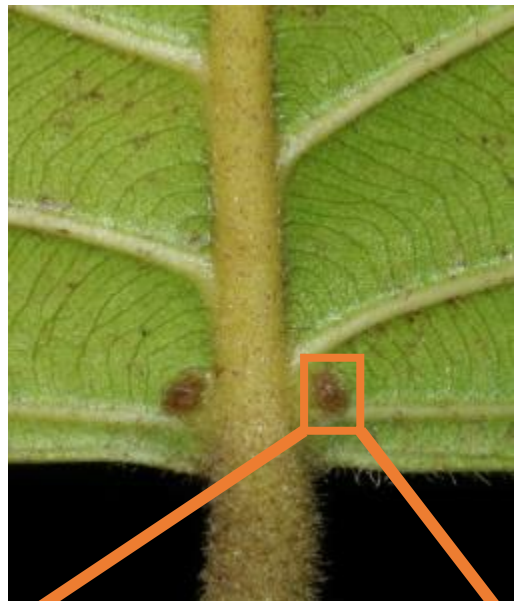
Hopea odorata

- It is not covered in hairs
- Presence of small openings



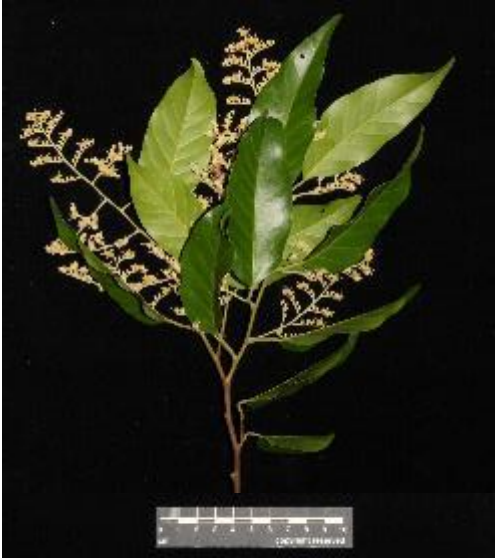
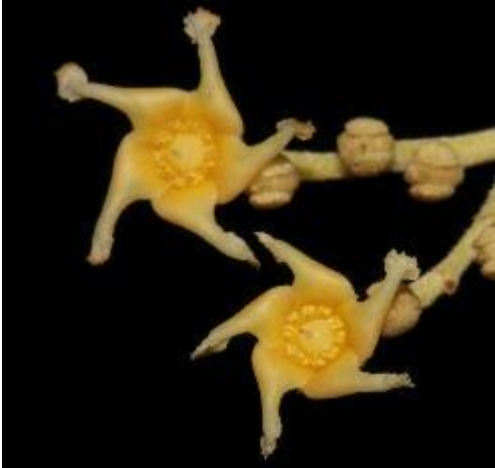
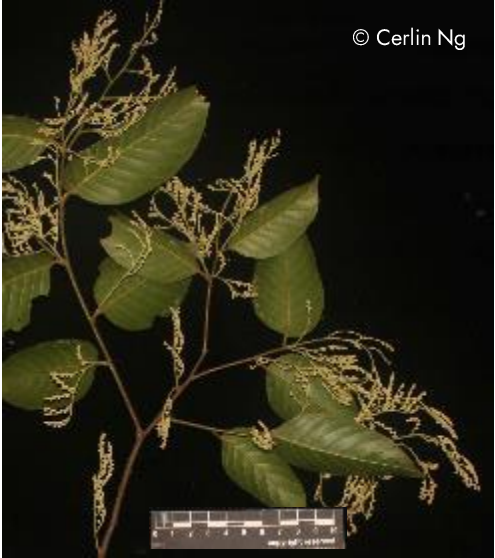
Hopea sangal

- It is covered with hairs
- Absence of small opening



Character comparison

Flower

<i>Hopea odorata</i>	<i>Hopea sangal</i>
• Flower cluster is longer, and can reach 12 cm long. • Petals are larger (3–5 mm long and 1–2 mm wide)  	• Flower cluster is shorter, and can reach 7 cm long. • Petals are smaller (2.5–3.5 mm long and 1–1.5 mm wide)  

Reference

Ashton, P.S. (1982). Dipterocarpaceae. In: van Steenis, C.G.G.J. (ed.) *Flora Malesiana*, ser.1, vol. 9, part 2, pp. 237–552, 575–600. The Hague/Boston/London: Martinus Nijhoff/Dr. W. Junk Publishers.

Ashton, P.S. (2004). Dipterocarpaceae. In: Soepadmo, E., Saw L.G. & Chung, R.C.K. (eds) *Tree Flora of Sabah Sarawak*, vol. 5, pp. 63–388. Malaysia: Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM)/Sabah Forestry Department/Sarawak Forestry Department.

Lemmens, R.H.M.J. and Soerianegara, I. (eds). (1993). *Plant Resources of South-East Asia Volume 5 (1). Timber trees: Major commercial timbers*. Indonesia: Prosea Foundation. 610 pages.

Pooma, R., Poopath, M. & Newman, M.F. (2017). Dipterocarpaceae. In: Santisuk, T. & Balsev, H. (eds) *Flora of Thailand*, vol. 13, part 4, pp. 557–685. Bangkok: The Forest Herbarium, Royal Forest Department.

Please visit our website <https://go.gov.sg/florafaunaweb> for more information.