

Ficus benjamina L.

Kingdom: Plantae

Phylum: Tracheophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Rosales

Family: Moraceae

Genus: *Ficus*

Species: *Ficus benjamina* L.



Popular names: Weeping/ Java fig, Java willow, Benjamin tree, Weeping laurel, Kabra, Pimpri.

Nature: Tree

Flowering time: March to May

Fruiting time: April to August

Plant distribution: It is native to South East Asia and Australia. In India, it grows in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Sikkim, Bihar, Odisha, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

Gardening notes:

1. It requires full sun or partial shade and any well-drained soil.
2. Plants are very frost-sensitive.
3. Propagation: By seeds and semi-ripe cuttings.

Economic importance:

1. Leaves are boiled in oil and applied on wounds and bruises.
2. Latex and fruit extract are used to treat inflammation, piles, leprosy and vomiting.
3. Leaves and twigs are used as insecticides or insect repellent.
4. It is ideal avenue tree for parks and gardens.

Plant description: It is a medium sized evergreen tree, with drooping graceful branchlets.

Root- Tap root and branched; **Stem-** Aerial, erect, woody, cylindrical, bark brownish black, smooth.

Leaf- Simple, alternate, elliptic to obovate, apex apiculate, base cuneate or obtuse, margins entire, dark green, leathery, slender petiole.

Inflorescence- Hypanthodium;

Fruit- Figs yellow, hard when immature.

Some close up pictures of plant parts





Flora of KCC