

Psidium guajava Linn.

Systematic Position

Kingdom: Plantae

Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Myrtales

Family: Myrtaceae

Genus: *Psidium*

Species: *P. guajava*



Popular names: Amrood, Peru, Jamba, Tupkel, Safed safari.

Nature: Tree

Flowering time: August to September

Fruiting time: October to February

Plant distribution: It is native of Central America. In India, it is chiefly cultivated in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Bihar, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

Gardening notes:

- 1. Light:** It requires full sun light for proper growth.
- 2. Moisture:** It requires average water for proper growth.
- 3. Propagation:** By seeds.

Economic importance:

1. The fruits are edible and are richest source of vitamins like A, B and C.
2. Fruit is aromatic, sweet, juicy and highly flavoured. It is a laxative.

3. The bark of the root is astringent and given in diarrhoea.

4. The bark and leaves are used for tanning.

5. Leaves are astringent and used for bowels and for wounds and ulcers.

Plant description: It is a medium sized tree with whitish brown bark.

Root- Tap root, branched

Stem- Aerial, erect, solid, woody, cylindrical, branched, glabrous; bark whitish brown.

Leaf- Simple, green, cauline, alternate, oval-oblong, 8-10 cm long, 4-6 cm wide, ovate apex, wavy and entire margins, uncostate reticulate venation, prominent hairy midrib, petiolate, petiole green, hairy, exstipulate

Inflorescence- Solitary axillary.

Flower- Small, hairy, complete, hermaphrodite, actinomorphic, epigynous, pedicellate, pedicel green, bracteate; Sepals- 5, gamosepalous, green, persistent, reduced, fused forming a cup like structure on the corolla, superior, valvate aestivation; Petals- 5, white, gamopetalous, forming a corolla cap covered by calyx cap, the formed calyptra falls off when flower opens, superior, valvate aestivation; Stamens- indefinite, polyandrous, attached on the rim of calyx cap, folded inwards in bud conditions, superior, filaments white, weak, anthers dorsifixed, bicelled, small, creamish yellow, longitudinal dehiscence; Carpels- 5, penta carpellary, syncarpous, ovary inferior, pentalocular, axile placentation, style creamish, minute, terminal, stigma simple, green.

Fruit- Round or oval, green with persistent calyx.

Seed- Numerous, small, creamish.

Some close-up pictures of plant parts



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