

SCIENTIFIC
NAME:*Castanopsis piriformis*
Hickel & A.CamusCOMMON
NAME(S):

Kor hin, kor khi nou (Laos)

ກໍ່ຫິນ, ກໍ່ຂີ້ໝູ (Lao alphabetic)

Dẻ Anh, Gie anh, Cây de,
Kho (Vietnam)

FAMILY:

Fagaceae

Joeri S. Strijk (Alliance for Conservation Tree Genomics ACTG)

Karina Orozco & Amy Byrne (The Morton Arboretum)



Botanic description



Tree, 6-30 m high. Bark greenish-brown or greenish-grey; inner bark brown or pinkish.



Leaves elliptic or oblong, 8-16 by 3-6 cm; base slightly cuneate acute; apex acuminate or acute; margins entire; subcoriaceous, glabrous glossy green on the upper surface, pale brown on the lower; midrib prominent on the lower surface, depressed on the upper; lateral nerves 8-11 pairs, conspicuous on both sides, scalariform and reticulate veins distinct on both sides when dry. **Petiole** 1-1.5 cm, glabrous.



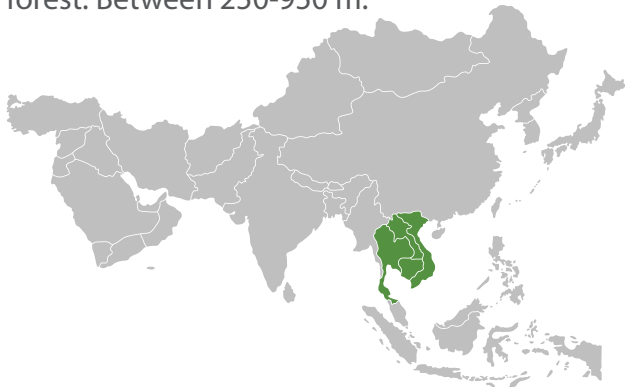
Branch: leaves lower surface (image © S.Sirimongkol).

Habit (image CC 0, Wikimedia).(inset)Bole and bark of mature tree (image © S.Sirimongkol).

Distribution

Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam.

On rocky soils such as sandstone. Pine deciduous dipterocarp forest, dry evergreen forest. Between 250-950 m.



Threat status

VU

Vulnerable.

♂ **Male and female inflorescences** usually separate. **Male inflorescence** much branched, axillary or terminal, spikelets 8-15 cm long. **Male flowers** yellowish, in clusters of 3 or more; pilose bracts outside; calyx 6-lobed, lobes free, 1 by 0.5 mm, pubescent outside; stamens 12, ca. 2 mm long, glabrous; rudimentary ovary ovoid, ca. 0.5 mm in diam., erect, hairy. **Female inflorescence** spike solitary, 8-10 cm long. **Female flowers** in clusters of 1-3, bracts and calyx as in male; staminodes 12; styles 3, divergent, glabrous.



● **Fruits** turbinate or pyriform, 2.5-3 by 2-3 cm (including cupule) on erect infructescence 10-15 cm long, fruit stalk 0.5-1 cm. **Cup** completely enclosing the nut except the umbo; wall smooth, without scales or spines, with 3-4 conspicuous, undulate lines outside. **Nut** 1 per cupule, ovoid, 2-2.3 by 2.3-2.7 cm, silky hairy around the umbo.

Ripe fruit showing cupule dehiscence and exposed nut (image © J.S.Strijk, www.asianfagaceae.com)



Ripe fruit (image © S.Sirimonkol).



Ripe fruits on the forest floor (image © E.Popov, CC BY, iNaturalist).

● Recommended seed collecting practice for nursery propagation

When fruits are ripe, collect seeds directly from the tree by shaking the branches using long bamboo poles. As seed viability decreases rapidly after falling on the ground and these are prone to predation damage and pests, collecting directly from the tree should be given priority over collecting fruits from the ground. If seed-set is less abundant, infructescences and seeds available on the ground can also be collected for use in nursery propagation.

Spiny fruits and infructescences should not be dehusked (i.e. no removing of the spiny cupules to expose the nuts). This exposes the nuts to pests and desiccation during transport and storage, and complicates identification of collected materials. Infructescences should also not be 'peeled' to remove individual fruits. Groups of trees in this species, fruiting in close proximity of each other can be sampled for seeds as a '*local population*' and collected materials can be mixed in the same bag. Seeds collected from trees separated from each other by more than 100-150m should not be mixed, but be kept in separate bags. If possible, geographic information should be collected for each '*local population*' and each bag of seeds collected from it. It would also be good practice to include some small branches and leaf material from the fruiting trees with each collected bag of seeds to aid in identification.

● Phenology

Flowering:

September-December.

Fruiting:

May-September (December?).

Method of dispersion and/or pollinating agent:

Rodents (squirrels; rats; mice?).

Light requirements or ecological guild:

To be confirmed.

● Uses



Nuts edible.