

"RIGHT PLACE FOR BRIGHT FUTURE" MANOHARBHAI SHIKSHAN PRASARAK MANDAL ARMORI'S MAHATMA GANDHI ARTS, SCIENCE & LATE NASARUDDINBHAI PANJWANI COMMERCE COLLEGE, ARMORI Dist. Gadchiroli (M.S.) 441 208 Affiliated to Gondwana University, Gadchiroli Re-accredited by NAAC 'A' with 3.02 CGPA

## PLANT MORPHOLOGY





<b>Botanical Name</b>	:- Pongamia pinnata (L.) Pierre.
Family	:- Fabaceae
Local Name	:- Karanj

*Pongamia pinnata* is a native to eastern and tropical Asia, Australia, and Pacific islands. Its common names include Indian Beech and Pongame Oil-tree. Karanj trees are normally planted along the highways, roads and canals to stop soil erosion. More recently, Karanj has been cultivated as a garden ornamental and for shade.

## **Morphology**:

Evergreen trees, bark grey, smooth; branchlets lenticellate. Leaves imparipinnate, alternate; rachis pulvinate; leaflets 5-7, opposite, elliptic-acuminate, elliptic-lanceolate, apex acuminate, margin entire, glabrous, chartaceous. Flowers bisexual, purplish-white, in lax axillary racemes. Fruit a pod, obliquely oblong, flat, thick, pointed at both ends, indehiscent, slightly falcate; seed one, reniform.

## Uses :

Karanj seeds and oil is anthelmintic, insecticidal, nematicidal and bactericidal. It is useful in rheumatism arthritis, whooping cough, skin alinments and scabies. Seed oil is mainly used in cosmetics, in soap making and as a lubricant. Bark is anthelmintic and used in pesticides.

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**Department of Botany**