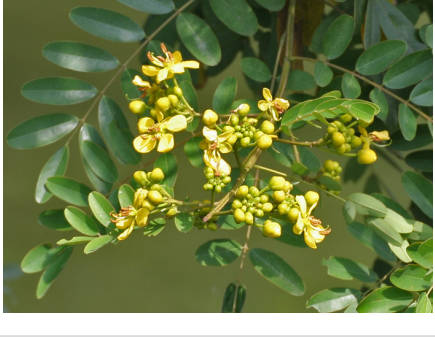


Senna siamea

<i>Senna siamea</i>	
	
Scientific classification	
Kingdom:	Plantae
(unranked):	Angiosperms
(unranked):	Eudicots
(unranked):	Rosids
Order:	Fabales
Family:	Fabaceae
Subfamily:	Caesalpinioideae
Tribe:	Cassieae
Subtribe:	Cassiinae
Genus:	<i>Senna</i>
Species:	<i>S. siamea</i>
Binomial name	
<p><i>Senna siamea</i> (Lam.) Irwin et Barneby</p>	
Synonyms	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cassia arayatensis</i> Naves • <i>Cassia arborea</i> Macfad. • <i>Cassia gigantea</i> DC. • <i>Cassia siamea</i> Lam. • <i>Cassia sumatrana</i> DC. 	



Kaeng khilek, a Thai curry made with Kassod leaves and flower buds

Senna siamea (Thai: ขี้เหล็ก, *khilek*), also known as **Kassod Tree**, **Cassod Tree** and (incorrectly) as **Cassia tree**,^[1] is a legume in the subfamily Caesalpinioideae. It is native to South and Southeast Asia, although its exact origin is unknown.^[2]

It is a medium-size, evergreen tree growing up to 18 m with beautiful yellow flowers. It is often used as shade tree in cocoa, coffee and tea plantations. In Thailand it is the provincial tree of Chaiyaphum Province and some places in the country are named after it.

Leaves are alternate, pinnately compound, with slender, green-reddish, tinged axis and 6 to 12 pairs of leaflets on short stalks, rounded at both ends.

Use

This plant has medicinal value and it contains a compound named Barakol. The leaves, tender pods and seeds are edible, but they must be previously boiled and the water discarded. They are used in Burmese and also in Thai cuisine where one of the most well-known preparations is *Kaeng khilek* (Thai: แกงขี้เหล็ก).

Other uses include as fodder plant, in intercropping systems, windbreaks, and shelter belts.^[3]

References

- [1] Nana Garden (http://www.nanagarden.com/senna_siamea^1-11.html)
- [2] AgroForestryTree Database (<http://www.worldagroforestrycentre.org/sea/Products/AFDbases/af/asp/SpeciesInfo.asp?SpID=461>)
- [3] Senna siamea - Winrock International (http://www.winrock.org/fnrm/factnet/factpub/FACTSH/S_siamea.html)

External links

- FAO - Senna siamea (Lam.) Irwin & Barneby (<http://www.fao.org/ag/AGP/AGPC/doc/Gbase/data/pf000378.htm>)
- *Senna siamea* (http://www.westafricanplants.senckenberg.de/root/index.php?page_id=13&preview=true&searchTextMenue=Senna+siamea&search=Wikitemplate) in West African plants – A Photo Guide. (<http://www.westafricanplants.senckenberg.de/>)



Wood from *S. siamea* (鉄刀木) is highly valued in Chinese furniture making.

Article Sources and Contributors

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