


Curry tree

This article is about *Murraya koenigii*, a tree which produces an aromatic leaf often used in Indian cuisine. For the European plant sometimes referred to as Curry Plant, see *Helichrysum italicum*. For the dish or sauce, see Curry.

Curry Leaf Tree	
	
Scientific classification	
Kingdom:	Plantae
(unranked):	Angiosperms
(unranked):	Eudicots
(unranked):	Rosids
Order:	Sapindales
Family:	Rutaceae
Genus:	<i>Murraya</i>
Species:	<i>M. koenigii</i>
Binomial name	
<i>Murraya koenigii</i> (L.) Sprengel	

The **curry tree** (*Murraya koenigii*) is a tropical to sub-tropical tree in the family Rutaceae, which is native to India and Sri Lanka.

Its leaves are used in many dishes in India and neighbouring countries. Often used in curries, the leaves are generally called by the name "curry leaves", though they are also translated as "sweet neem leaves" in most Indian languages (as opposed to ordinary neem leaves which are bitter).

Description

It is a small tree, growing 4–6 m (13–20 feet) tall, with a trunk up to 40 cm (16 in) diameter. The leaves are pinnate, with 11-21 leaflets, each leaflet 2–4 cm (0.79–1.57 in) long and 1–2 cm (0.39–0.79 in) broad. They are highly aromatic. The flowers are small, white, and fragrant. The small black shiny berries are edible, but their seeds are poisonous. Wikipedia:Citation needed

The species name commemorates the botanist Johann König.

Uses

The leaves are highly valued as seasoning in southern and west-coast Indian cooking, and Sri Lankan cooking (කරපිංචා), especially in curries, usually fried along with the chopped onion in the first stage of the preparation. They are also used to make thoran, vada, rasam and kadhi. In their fresh form, they have a short shelf life & do not keep well in the refrigerator. They are also available dried, though the aroma is largely inferior.

The leaves of *Murraya koenigii* are also used as an herb in Ayurvedic medicine. They are believed to possess anti-diabetic properties. Wikipedia:Identifying reliable sources (medicine)

Although most commonly used in curries, leaves from the curry tree can be used in many other dishes to add flavor. In Cambodia, Khmer toast the leaves in an open flame or roast it until crispy and then crush it into a soured soup dish called Maju Krueng.

In the absence of tulsi leaves, curry leaves are used for rituals and pujas.

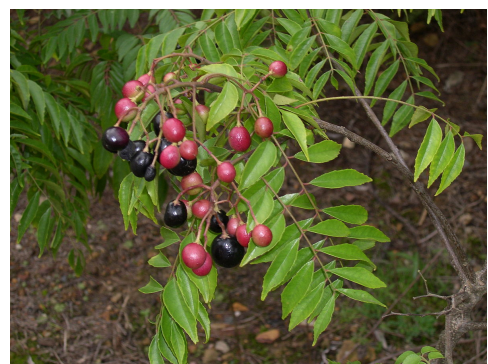
Propagation

Seeds must be ripe and fresh to plant; dried or shrivelled fruits are not viable. One can plant the whole fruit, but it is best to remove the pulp before planting in potting mix that is kept moist but not wet.

Stem cuttings can be also used for propagation.



The small flowers are white and fragrant.



Ripe and unripe fruits.

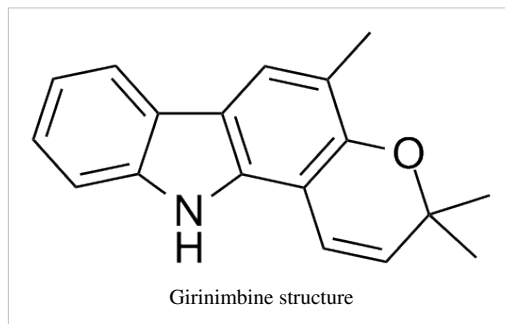


Jayanti in Buxa Tiger Reserve in Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal, India.

Chemical constituents

A 2011 study of girinimbine, a carbazole alkaloid isolated from this plant, found that it inhibited the growth and induced apoptosis in human hepatocellular carcinoma, HepG2 cells *in vitro*.

References



External links



Wikimedia Commons has media related to *Murraya koenigi*.

- Gernot Katzer's Herb Pages on curry leaves (http://gernot-katzers-spice-pages.com/engl/Murr_koe.html)
- Plant Cultures: botany, history and uses of curry leaf plant (http://www.plantcultures.org/plants/curry_leaf_landing.html)

Article Sources and Contributors

Curry tree *Source:* <http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?oldid=619540346> *Contributors:* A. B., A3RO, Acalamari, Akk7a, Amisha Trivedi, Aniiish72, Anthony Appleyard, Asarelah, Augur, BD2412, Bagworm, Barticus88, BiggKwell, Binko71100, BrightStarSky, Burschik, CALR, Chinwi, Chocolate beans69, ChrisGualtieri, Christian75, Cibyd, Cuaxdon, DanielCD, Delinck, DrJGMD, DrMatthias, ERcheck, Einsteinwallah, Eleven even, Erusse estelinaya, Faizan, Flyer22, Frietjes, FruitLover, Gal-bamuna, GcSwRhlc, Getsnoopy, Hesperian, Hgkamath, Hippophae, Ikrshnan, Ivantou, Jahnvisatyan, JakeWi, Jerem43, Jmgarg1, Johanna-Hypatia, Jonathan Fernando, Ka ga, Kintetsubuffalo, Krishnacgh, Kwamikagami, Laibysofia12, Loniceas, MKar, MPF, Maikel, Mangatha, Markj99, Marknesbitt, MartinBiely, Matthewegirling, Mfield, Mfwills, MiCRoSCoPiC^eaRthLinG, Mike hayes, Mingcc, Muhammad Mahdi Karim, Nandhana, Tamilathipathi, Nayansatya, Nbrules, Nehrams2020, Nick, Nickersonl, Nijgoekar, Nipisiquit, Nlsanand, OlliffeObscurity, Pamri, Peter Greenwell, Pinethicket, Plantdrew, Prime Entelechy, Pustelnik, RA0808, RDBrown, Raguks, Rantingsteve, Rcsprinter123, Redvers, Rezowan, Rupalig, Sachinj23, Saintrain, Satdeep gill, Schewek, Senonline, ShelfSkewed, Shyamal, Sitush, Sjschen, Slowmover, Smaines, Sortan, Sreikanth, Srinivas.chinta, Srinivas14, Ssaa08, Sun Creator, Sunrise, Syammohamm, Sysy, Thos okapi, Varuns88, Vikrant42, Vinodsukumar, Vivin, Vonsolms, Vprajkumar, Wayne Slam, WereSpielChequers, WoodElf, Woohookitty, WormRunner, WriterHound, Xufanc, Zigger, 181 anonymous edits

Image Sources, Licenses and Contributors

File:Curry Trees.jpg *Source:* http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:Curry_Trees.jpg *License:* Public Domain *Contributors:* Original uploader was Rantingsteve at en.wikipedia

Image:Curry Tree flower.JPG *Source:* http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:Curry_Tree_flower.JPG *License:* Creative Commons Attribution-Sharealike 2.5 *Contributors:* Abigor, Berrucomons, Muhammad Mahdi Karim, Slaunger

Image:CurryLeaf Fruits.jpg *Source:* http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:CurryLeaf_Fruits.jpg *License:* Public Domain *Contributors:* M. Chang

Image:Kadi Patta (Murraya koenigii) flowers & leaves at Jayanti, Duars W Picture 167.jpg *Source:* [http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:Kadi_Patta_\(Murraya_koenigii\)_flowers_&_leaves_at_Jayanti,_Duars_W_Picture_167.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:Kadi_Patta_(Murraya_koenigii)_flowers_&_leaves_at_Jayanti,_Duars_W_Picture_167.jpg) *License:* Creative Commons Attribution-Sharealike 3.0 *Contributors:* J.M.Garg

File:Girinimbine.png *Source:* <http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:Girinimbine.png> *License:* unknown *Contributors:* User:Nuklear

Image:Commons-logo.svg *Source:* <http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:Commons-logo.svg> *License:* logo *Contributors:* Anomie

License

Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0
[//creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/)