



Exceptional Stamen Number of *Madhuca longifolia* (Koen.) Mc Bride. ver. *longifolia*. (Sapotaceae)

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During the course of recent explorations from Kinwat Taluka Nanded district of Maharashtra the authors came across with interesting tree of *Madhuca longifolia* (Koen.) Mc Bride. ver. *longifolia*. Having number of Stamens 17 to 19 exceptionally. A scrutiny of literature shows that the Flowers of *Madhuca longifolia* are normally have 20-30 Stamens, as given in some major Floras, is as follows,

1. *Flora of Marathwada*.....Stamens 20-30
2. *Flora of Solapur District, Maharashtra*.....Stamens 20-30
3. *Flora of Kolhapur District*.....Stamens 20-30
4. *Trees of Vidarbha*.....Stamens 24-26
5. *Tree Flora of Balaghat Ranges of Maharashtra*.....Stamens 20-30

A brief description of plant and its utility aspects are given below;

Large, deciduous trees, up to 30 m tall; bark pale brown; sap milky. Leaves 7- 15 x 4-7 cm, alternate or subopposite of ten clustered at the ends of branchlets, narrow oblong, tapering at base, entire or undulate, shortly acuminate, tomentose when young, glabrous when mature; petioles upto 4 cm long, glabrous or nearly so; stipules subulate, densely pubescent, caducous. Flowers cream-colored, c 0.5 cm across, in dense fascicles, terminal or from axils of fallen leaves; drooping, rusty tomentose. Calyx divided nearly to the base; segments ovate, acute, rusty tomentose. Corolla lobes 7-14, ovate, lanceolate, acute. (Stamens 17 to 19; anthers in 2-series, acuminate, hairy on the back. Ovary hirsute 6-8 locular, axile placentation. Fruits upto 3.5 cm long, ovoid, greenish- tomentose; seeds ovoid-ellipsoid, polished, brown, 1-3. Rarely found along stream banks in the hill forests.

Localities: B.P. College campus, Kinwat.

Fls. & Frts.: January -March.

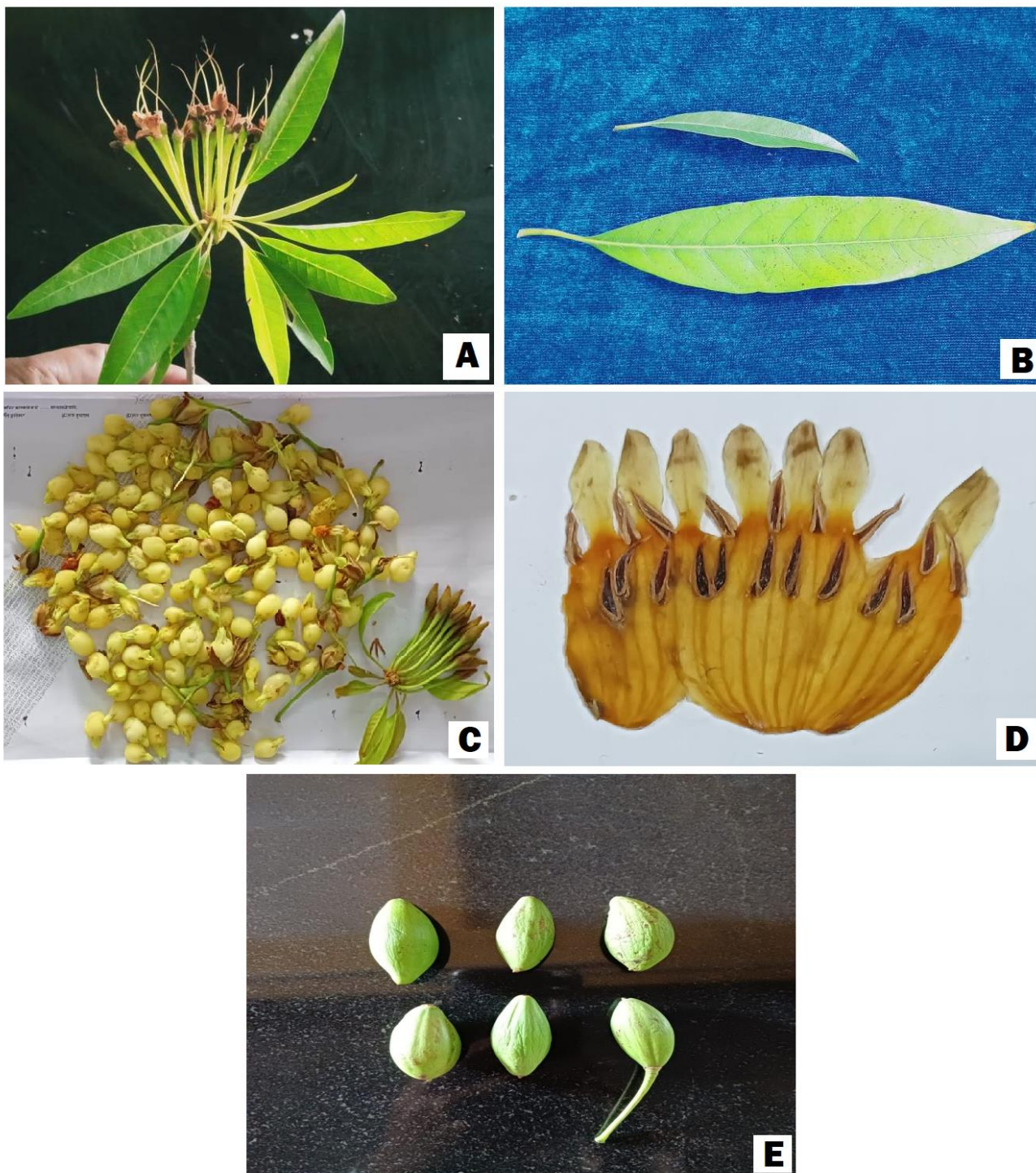
Uses:

Medicine: *Pimples and Blood purifier: 40-60 ml juice of bark with butter milk is taken another dose is interval of 15 days.

Edible: Fruit epicarp and mesocarp is edible,

Beverage: Flowers are fermented to prepare liquor.

Misc.: Timber for house construction and Leaves are used for making plats.



A: Twig and Inflorescence B: Leaf C: Flowers D: Stamens E: Fruits

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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