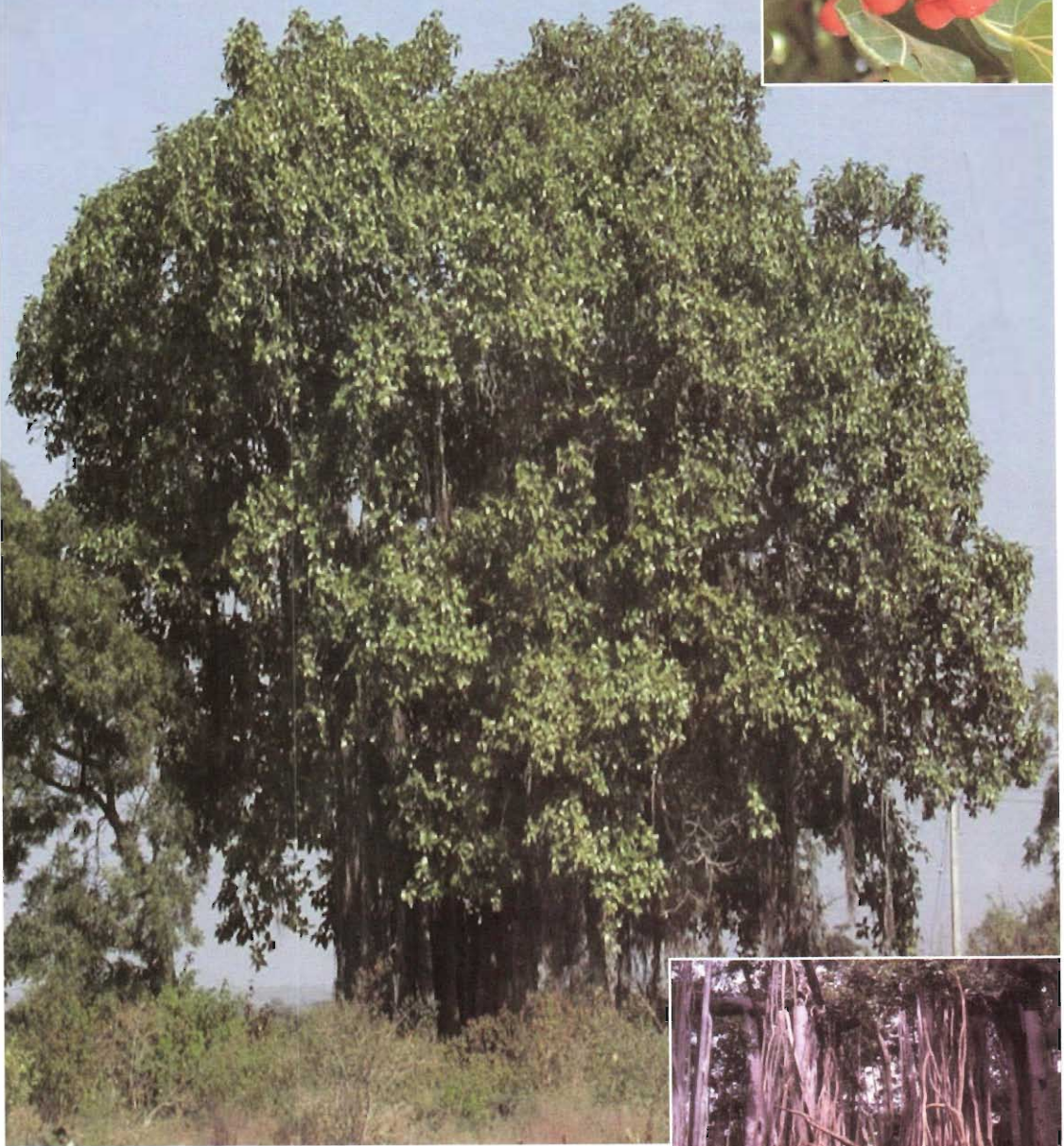


Flowering Trees



Ficus bengalensis L. (Banyan) is a common large evergreen shade-giving tree producing aerial roots, which grow down into the soil and support the spreading branches. The tree is regarded as sacred by Hindus and is grown near villages and temples. Fruits are small, fleshy and orange-red when ripe. The timber is used for making crates, cart-shafts while the aerial props are used as tent poles and umbrella handles. The milky latex and infusion of the bark are used in Indian medicine.