



## Flowering Trees

*Cerbera manghas* L. (SEA MANGO) of Apocynaceae is a medium-sized evergreen coastal tree with milky latex. The bark is grey-brown, thick and rough. Leaves are leathery, long-veined, alternate and usually crowded at the end of branches. Flowers are in terminal compact clusters and are mildly scented, large (3–8 cm across), white with a narrow tube and spreading lobes, often reddish-pink at the centre. Fruit is large (5–10 cm long), oval containing two flattened seeds and resembles a mango, hence the name Mangas or Manghas.

Leaves and fruits contain ‘cerberin’, which is extremely poisonous if ingested. *C. manghas* is found distributed in Polynesia, Hong Kong, Malaya and India.