

16. *Garcinia hanburyi* Hook.f.

Taxonomy and Commercial Grade

Cambodian name	: Roung
Scientific name	: <i>Garcinia hanburyi</i> Hook. f.
Family	: Clusiaceae
Commercial Grade-Cambodia	: Unclassified

Distribution and Habitat: Found in the dense and secondary forests of Cambodia, Southern Vietnam, and Thailand. The species is often cultivated in Singapore and Java (Dy Phon, 2000). In Cambodia, it is found in Kampong Thom, Koh Kong, Pursat, Kampong Speu and Monduliri (Khorn, 2002; see map).

Gene-Ecological Zone: Central Lowlands (d).

Botanical Description: A broad-leaved tree up to 10-20 m high. All parts of the plant are filled with a thick, sticky juice (Dy Phon, 2000). The leaves are simple, and 10-20 cm long and 4-6 cm wide (Heang Ponley, 2002, per. comm.).

Seed Collection: Seeds are usually collected from the tree or ground after shaking the branches. In seed source areas, the ground is usually cleared and sometimes burnt to prepare for seed collection. To ease collection, a cover can be spread out on the ground. The optimal time of collection is reached when the fruits have changed in colour from green to brownish.

Uses: The gamboge (yellow-milky latex) is used in yellow watercolors and in the preparation of alcohol varnish and metal varnishes. In traditional Cambodian medicine, it is used to treat colds and bronchitis, and as a vermifuge. The wood, although not very durable, is used in construction (Dy Phon, 2000).

Current Status: As the wood is very valuable and in high demand, the species is over-exploited and in danger of extinction if adequate protection measures are not implemented. Its distribution is scattered and its habits have been destroyed by forestland conversions and selective logging. The number of mature trees has been reduced significantly and it is now difficult to find significant sources of germplasm.

In 2002, the second CTSP meeting on the Forest Gene Conservation Strategy defined *Garcinia hanburyi* Hook.f. as a priority species in need of immediate conservation intervention and appropriate protection. Resin tapping (harvesting) is prohibited by Cambodian forestry law (1988) unless special permission is granted by MAFF.

References:

- Cambodian Forestry Law No. 35, 25th June 1988
- FA, 2002 (Draft), List of Trade Names of Commercial Wood in Cambodia, Trade Names of Commercial Wood
- Dy Phon, 2000, Dictionary of Plants Used in Cambodia
- Heang Ponley, Director General of Department of Traditional Medicinal Plants, Ministry of Health, 2002, pers. comm
- Khorn, S, 2002, Distribution of Selected Tree Species for Gene Conservation in Cambodia

- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), 1986, Decision No. 050 SSR.KSK: Wood Classification and Minimum Diameter for Allowable Cutting, 12th September

