

FACT SHEET: GOH TREE PLANTING FOR CGS 2021 AS PART OF THE ONEMILLIONTREES MOVEMENT

During Clean and Green Singapore 2021 on 21 November 2021, three trees of three tree species that will help to restore nature into the urban landscape as we go towards the City in Nature vision will be planted across the Kampung Admiralty by the guests-of-honour. This is in support of the OneMillionTrees Movement.

The tree species that will be planted are from the nutmeg family, namely the *Knema curtisii*, *Horsfieldia polyspherula* var. *sumatrana* and *Horsfieldia irya*. *Knema curtisii* trees are native and critically endangered, with its fruits resembling a nutmeg capsule that splits open along a suture to reveal a seed covered by an aril. *Horsfieldia polyspherula* trees are known for its bunches of round fruits of orange or reddish orange arils and the *Horsfieldia irya* belongs to the same family. All three tree species will help to restore nature into the urban landscape, bringing the therapeutic effects of greenery directly to homes.

Tree to be planted by Deputy Prime Minister Heng Swee Keat and Mayor (North West District) Mr Alex Yam

Scientific name: *Knema curtisii*

Common names: Penarahan Tandok

Family: Myristicaceae

Botanical Description:

Native distribution	Native to Singapore (Critically Endangered) as species grows in freshwater swamp forests locally and can also be found in lowland dipterocarp forests
Growth Form	Tree that can grow up to 2-10m tall with finely striated trunk
Leaves	Leaves are thin and dry, paper-like; variable shapes of elliptic, obovate, ovate or lanceolate, measuring 3.5 - 15 cm by 1.2 - 4.0 cm; greenish or dark brown above and greyish on lower surface; very fine venation, petioles of 5-20 mm by 0.7-1.5 mm.

Flowers	It has a peduncle of 1 mm, cream to pink; male flowers pedicel 5-11 mm long, buds subglobose or broadly obovoid, 2.5-5 mm in diameter, slightly concave; female flowers pedicel 5-10 mm long, buds ellipsoidal to obovoid or subglobose, 4.5 by 2.5-4 mm.
Fruit	Fruits are 1 or 2 per infructescence, 2-5 by 1.5-3 cm, ellipsoidal-shaped, apex acute and base obtuse, greyish to rusty, nearly hairless; dry pericarp of 1-2.5 mm thick, fruiting pedicel of 8-16 mm long.

Interesting facts:

Etymology	" <i>Curtisii</i> " named after English botanist Charles Curtis (1853–1928) who was in charge of Penang Botanic Gardens
Dispersal & Pollination	The seeds are dispersed by frugivorous birds such as the Oriental Pied Hornbill, and pigeons. Flowers are pollinated by small insects such as beetles, thrips, and flies.

Images of *Knema curtisii*

Form



Flowers



Branches of nutmeg family

Characteristic 'spoke wheel' branching



Fruit & its bright red aril



Tree to be planted by Minister for National Development Desmond Lee and Senior Minister of State for Transport, and Sustainability and the Environment Dr Amy Khor

Scientific name: *Horsfieldia polyspherula*

Family: Myristicaceae

Botanical Description:

Native distribution	Sumatra, Peninsular Malaysia, Singapore, Borneo, and the Philippines
Growth Form	It is a tree up to 40 m tall.
Leaves	Its alternate, stalked leaves possess leaf blades that are thickly membranous to papery, egg-shaped-oblong to oblong-lance-shaped, veins distinctly raised above, light brown or chocolate-brown and hairless below, and 7–28 by 2.5–9 cm.
Flowers	The species is dioecious with individual trees producing either male or female flowers. Its flowering shoot (inflorescence) has sparse to dense woolly hairs and is 0.6 m long. Its male inflorescence is 4–20 by 3–12 cm, and contains flowers in up to 8-flowered clusters. Its female inflorescence is up to 8 cm long. The male or female flowers are hairless or gradually becoming so, jade-green, turning to yellow when mature, and its male flowers are smaller than its female flowers.
Fruit	Its fruiting clusters (infructescences) contain 1–6 fruits each. Its fruits are partially round or ovoid, hairless, and are 1.9–6 by 1.4–5 cm.

Interesting facts:

Etymology	Horsfieldia, named after Dr. Thomas Horsfield (1773–1859), an American botanist who explored in the Malesian islands; “Polyspherula” which means ‘multiple fruits’ refers to the bunches of round fruits that are borne on the tree for this species which is quite distinctive.
Dispersal & Pollination	Its flowers are insect pollinated. The bright red arils are eaten by mammals and hornbills.

Images of *Horsfieldia polyspherula*

Form



Flowers



Branches of nutmeg family

Characteristic 'spoke wheel' branching



Fruit & its bright red aril





NParks Flora&FaunaWeb

Tree to be planted by Ms Mariam Jaafar, Adviser to Woodlands Grassroots Organisations and Mdm Lalithama Nair, Chairperson for Woodlands Environment Committee

Scientific name: *Horsfieldia irya*

Common names: Darah-Darah

Family: Myristicaceae

Botanical Description:

Native distribution	Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Sumatra, Peninsular Malaysia, Singapore, Borneo, Java, southern Philippines, Sulawesi, Moluccas, New Guinea, Caroline Islands, and the Solomon Islands
Growth Form	It is a tree up to 40 m tall.
Leaves	Its alternate, stalked leaves have membranous leaf blades that are often curved towards the tip, are elliptic-oblong to lance-shaped, 10–35 by 3–9 cm, and possess irregular white marks above.
Flowers	The plant is dioecious. Its flowers develop in flowering shoots (inflorescence). Its male inflorescences are 4–18 by 3–10 cm, and have flowers in clusters of 3–10. Its female inflorescences are 2–8 cm long. Its flowers are yellow, and its male flowers are smaller than its female flowers.
Fruit	Its fruiting bodies (infructescences) contain 2–8 fruits each. Its fruits are round, hairless, finely granular, yellowish orange, and are 1.5–3 cm across. Its round seeds are covered by an orange-red to red coverings (arils).

Interesting facts:

Traditional Medicinal Use	Decoction of the bark can be used as a gargle for sore throats. Latex used to clean ulcers. Leaves used to extract pus from boils and sores. Macerated root drunk with lime juice as remedy for toxic snake bites.
Timber Use	Minor hardwood species. Wood used for bottle lids. Its seeds contain an oleo-resin which can be used to make varnish.

Images of *Horsfieldia irya*

Form



Leaves



Bark



Fruit & its bright red aril



All Sources:

NParks Flora & Fauna Web (<http://florafauanaweb.nparks.gov.sg>)