



*Anacardium occidentale* L.



Family: Anacardiaceae

Local Name: Kasumavu, Cashewnut tree

Key Characters: Evergreen tree, bark pale grey to brown, smooth. Leaves simple, alternate, obovate, apex obtuse, margin entire. Flowers polygamous & yellow streaked with pink. Fruit a reniform nut, a pseudocarp.

Uses: Fruits and young leaves are edible. Cashew apple used for wine making and strong alcoholic drinks. Medicinally the fruit is used for warts, cancerous ulcers and elephantiasis. The wood used for treatment of skin afflictions and burns. Bark and leaves used to treat sore gums and tooth ache.