

• 中文名稱：光蠟樹 『虫』字旁的『蠟』不是『月』𠃉又`字旁的『臘』-蠟燭←→臘肉

• 英文名稱：Griffith's Ash , Formosan Ash

• 學名：
Fraxinus formosana Hayata
Fraxinus minute-punctata Hayata
Fraxinus retusa Champ. var. *kosyunensis* Mori
Fraxinus griffithii C. B. Clarke (光蠟樹)

• 科名：木犀科(Oleaceae)梣屬(*Fraxinus*)

台灣光蠟樹、光蠟樹、白蠟樹、白雞油、脫皮樹、山苦楝、台灣白蠟樹

- 別稱：
- **Taiwan Ash / Taiwan Glossy-leaf Ash (台灣光蠟樹、台灣白蠟樹):** Its formal botanical names, highlighting its origin and the "waxy" (glossy) appearance of its leaves.
 - **White "Chicken Oil" Tree (白雞油):** This is its most famous local nickname. In Taiwan, the "Zelkova" tree is called "Chicken Oil" because its wood is oily and tough. Since this tree has similar high-quality wood but a **paler color**, locals named it the "White" version.
 - **Peeling Tree (脫皮樹):** Refers to its thin bark that flakes off in plates, much like a plane tree or a guava tree.
 - **Mountain Melia (山苦楝):** Because its pinnate leaves look slightly similar to the *Melia azedarach* (Bead Tree), but it belongs to a completely different family (*Oleaceae*).
- 原產地：
- 原產地在台灣，為台灣特有種。 **Native to Taiwan:** This species is **endemic to Taiwan** (台灣特有種), meaning it is found naturally nowhere else in the world.

分布於低海拔季風林。北部分布於海拔 1800 公尺以下至 500 公尺及南部 1800 公尺以下至 700 公尺範圍暖溫帶闊葉林帶。

- 分布：
- **Ecological Zone:** Primarily distributed within **low-altitude monsoon forests**.
 - **Altitude Range:**
 - **Northern Taiwan:** Found in warm-temperate broadleaf forest zones between **500 and 1,800 meters** above sea level.
 - **Southern Taiwan:** Found in similar forest zones between **700 and 1,800 meters**

above sea level.

木材是好的家具材料，適合作為庭園樹、行道樹。

• 用途：

- **Furniture Making:** The wood is an excellent material for high-quality furniture due to its density and texture.
- **Landscaping:** It is highly suitable as a **garden tree** or an **ornamental street tree** due to its elegant shape and resilience.

半落葉喬木，樹皮薄，灰白色，作片狀剝落，幹上留有雲形剝落痕跡。因其材色具有油蠟色澤，材質堅韌優良，很類似雞油，但顏色較白所以又名為「白雞油」（台灣欒）。

• 莖：

- **Type:** A **semi-deciduous large tree**.
- **Bark Appearance:** The bark is thin and **grayish-white**.
- **The "Peeling" Effect:** It peels off in thin, flake-like plates, leaving behind distinct **cloud-shaped scars** (雲形剝落痕跡) on the trunk.
- **The "Chicken Oil" Nickname:**
 - The wood possesses a natural **waxy, oily luster** (油蠟色澤).
 - The material is **tough and superior in quality**, very similar to the "Chicken Oil Tree" (Taiwan Zelkova/台灣欒).
 - However, because the wood color is **paler/whiter**, it is commonly known as "**White Chicken Oil**" (白雞油).

葉為奇數羽狀複葉，對生，具葉柄，柄長 4~10 公分，柄及葉軸具縱溝；葉片長 10~20 公分，寬 5~10 公分；小葉 2~5 對，具短柄；小葉片長 5~10 公分，寬 2.5~4 公分，長橢圓形或倒披針形，葉基楔形，葉尖銳尖，葉緣全緣，上下表面無毛，有時葉柄與脈上被毛；秋天葉片會轉黃。

• 葉：

- **Type:** **Odd-pinnate compound leaf** (奇數羽狀複葉).
- **Arrangement:** Unlike the alternate leaves of many other trees, these are **opposite** (對生), meaning they grow in pairs directly across from each other on the branch.
- **Structure:**

- **Petiole (Main Stem):** 4–10 cm long. Both the petiole and the leaf axis (rachis) have a **longitudinal groove** (縱溝).
- **Leaflet Count:** Typically **2 to 5 pairs** of leaflets plus one terminal leaflet at the tip.
- **Leaflet Details:**
 - **Shape:** Long-elliptic or **oblanceolate** (倒披針形 — wider near the tip than the base).
 - **Size:** Each leaflet is 5–10 cm long and 2.5–4 cm wide.
 - **Apex & Base:** Sharp-pointed (acute) tip with a wedge-shaped (cuneate) base.
 - **Margins:** **Entire** (全緣 — smooth edges with no teeth).
- **Surface Texture:** Generally **hairless** (glabrous) on both sides, though sometimes fine hairs appear on the petiole or the veins.
- **Seasonal Change:** In **autumn**, the foliage turns a brilliant **yellow**, adding a splash of seasonal color to the landscape.

花序為密錐花序，花密生，頂生；花黃白色，被毛；花萼鐘形，先端 4 淺裂；花冠深 4 裂，裂片長約 0.2 公分，長橢圓形；雄蕊 2 枚，著生於花冠筒上；子房上位，2 室，各具胚珠 2 顆；柱頭 2 裂。

• 花：

- **Inflorescence:** Grows in **dense panicles** (密錐花序) at the tips of branches (**terminal**).
- **Appearance:** The flowers are small, **yellowish-white**, and densely clustered.
- **Texture:** The flower clusters are **covered in fine hairs** (被毛).
- **Structure:**
 - **Calyx:** Bell-shaped with 4 shallow lobes at the tip.
 - **Corolla:** Deeply divided into **4 lobes**, each about **0.2 cm** long (very tiny!) and oblong in shape.
 - **Stamens:** Only **2 stamens**, attached to the corolla tube.
 - **Pistil:** Superior ovary with 2 chambers, each containing 2 ovules; the stigma is 2-lobed.

果為翅果，長約 3 公分，果形狹長呈片狀生長，披針狀籠形，先端鈍或凹，平滑，成熟時褐色。


• 果：

- **Type:** A **Samara** (翅果 — a winged fruit).
- **Size:** Approximately **3 cm long**.
- **Shape:** Narrow, elongated, and **blade-like** (lanceolate-spatulate). The tip is either blunt or slightly notched (**emarginate**).
- **Appearance:** Smooth surface; starts green and turns **brown** when mature.
- **Growth:** They grow in large, hanging clusters. When they fall, the "wing" causes them to spin like a helicopter, helping the wind carry them far from the parent tree.

光蠟樹為木犀科常綠半落葉喬木，樹皮灰白色，幹上留有雲形剝落痕跡。因其材色具有油蠟色澤，材質堅韌優良，很類似雞油，但顏色較白，所以又名為「白雞油」(台灣檫)。葉為奇數羽狀複葉，葉對生，羽狀複葉先端漸尖銳；葉小光滑全緣，秋天葉片會轉黃。花序明顯，花黃白色，圓錐狀花序。果為翅果，果形狹長呈片狀生長，成熟時褐色。樹形優美，適合作為庭園樹、行道樹。臺灣光蠟樹樹姿優美，結果期時一個個長線形的翅果掛在樹上隨風飄曳，令人賞心悅目。樹液則是獨角仙成蟲喜愛的食物。

• 特 性：

- **Classification:** An evergreen to semi-deciduous large tree belonging to the **Oleaceae** (Olive) family.
- **The Trunk:** The bark is grayish-white, characterized by distinct **cloud-shaped peeling scars** left on the trunk.
- **The "White Chicken Oil" Wood:** The timber possesses a waxy, oily luster and superior toughness, similar to the "Chicken Oil Tree" (Taiwan Zelkova). However, because its color is paler, it is nicknamed "**White Chicken Oil**" (白雞油).
- **Foliage:** The leaves are **odd-pinnate** and **opposite**. The leaflets are small, smooth, and have "entire" (smooth) margins with pointed tips. In **autumn**, the leaves turn a vibrant **yellow**.
- **Flowers:** The tree produces prominent **yellowish-white** flowers arranged in **panicle inflorescences** (conical clusters).
- **Fruit:** The fruit is a **samara** (winged fruit). These are slender and blade-like, growing in flat clusters that turn **brown** when mature.

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- **Aesthetic Value:** With its elegant form, it is highly suitable as a garden or street tree. During the fruiting season, the long, linear winged fruits hang from the branches and sway in the breeze—a truly pleasing sight.
 - **Ecological Role:** Its sap is the **favorite food of adult Japanese Rhinoceros Beetles** (*Allomyrina dichotoma*).