

• 中文名稱： 台灣欒樹

• 英文名稱： Flame Gold-rain Tree 、 Taiwan Golden-rain Tree 、 Flamegold

• 學名： *Koelreuteria henryi* Dummer

*Koelreuteria formosana* Hayata

*Koelreuteria elegans* (Seem.) A.C. Sm. ssp. *formosana* (Hayata) F. G.Meyer

• 科屬別： 無患子科(Sapindaceae)欒樹屬(*Koelreuteria*)

- 台灣欒樹、金苦楝、苦楝公、苦楝舅、台灣欒華、拔仔雞油、苦苓江、拔子雞油、臺灣欒華、木欒仔、五色欒華、四色樹 **English Common Name:** Taiwan Goldenrain Tree / Flamegold Rain Tree

- **Botanical Name:** *Koelreuteria elegans* ssp. *formosana*

The aliases you provided translate as follows:

- 別名：
- **Taiwan Flamegold / Taiwan Xuan Tree** (台灣欒樹 / 台灣欒華 / 臺灣欒華)
  - **Golden Chinaberry** (金苦楝 - Refers to the golden flowers and leaf similarity to the Chinaberry tree)
  - **Male Chinaberry / Uncle Chinaberry** (苦楝公 / 苦楝舅 - Folklore names indicating it looks like the Chinaberry but is a different "relative")
  - **Guava-Chicken Oil** (拔仔雞油 / 拔子雞油 - A traditional name referring to the smooth, slippery wood texture)
  - **Ku-Ling-Jiang** (苦苓江 - A phonetic variation of its name in local dialects)
  - **Wood Xuan** (木欒仔)
  - **Five-Colored Xuan / Four-Colored Tree** (五色欒華 / 四色樹)

• 原產地： 台灣特有原生種 **Origin:**

- **An endemic species native to Taiwan.** (台灣特有原生種)

• 分布： 分布於全島低海拔的闊葉林中，從北到南都有。 **Distribution:**

- Distributed throughout the **low-altitude broadleaf forests** across the entire island, found

from the **north to the south.**

• 用途：

1.園景樹、行道樹：樹姿優美，花色多變化，是優良的園景樹、行道樹。2.木材用途：木材黃白色，質脆易開裂，可為板材和家具用材。3.藥用：性味：根：苦、寒。效用：根及根皮：疏風清熱，收斂止咳，止痢殺蟲。治風熱咳嗽，風熱目痛，痢疾，尿道炎。 **Uses:**

1. **Landscape and Street Tree:** With its elegant form and vibrant, changing colors, it is an excellent ornamental and roadside tree.
2. **Timber (Wood) Uses:** The wood is yellowish-white. While it is somewhat brittle and prone to cracking, it can be used for basic boards and furniture-making materials.
3. **Medicinal Uses:**
  - **Properties:** The roots are bitter in taste and "cold" (cooling) in nature.
  - **Efficacy:** The roots and root bark are used to "dispel wind" and "clear heat," acting as an astringent to stop coughing, treat dysentery, and kill parasites.
  - **Treatment:** Used to treat "wind-heat" coughs (common cold symptoms), eye pain caused by wind-heat, dysentery, and urethritis (urinary tract infection).

• 莖：

高可達 20 公尺，徑 20~45 公分，樹幹通直，灰黑色，光滑；小枝直立或近似直立。 **Stem (Trunk and Branches):**

- **Height:** Can reach up to **20 meters.**
- **Diameter:** **20–45 centimeters.**
- **Trunk:** The trunk is straight and upright, characterized by a **grayish-black** color and a relatively **smooth** texture.
- **Twigs/Small Branches:** The twigs are erect (upright) or nearly erect.

• 葉：

二回羽狀複葉，長 50~70 公分，寬 20~30 公分；羽片 7~9 枚，長 20~25 公分，寬 10~1 公分；小葉 10~13 枚，對生或近似對生，長橢圓形狀卵形，長 5~7 公分，寬 2.5~3 公分，但形狀及大小常有變異，先端銳尖，基部鈍而歪，紙質，邊緣有鋸齒；表面呈有光澤的綠色，背面淡綠色；表裏兩面皆光滑無毛；中肋於表面凹下而於背面顯著隆起，側脈每邊 10~12 枚，表面不顯著而隆起於背面；葉柄長 3~6 公分，粗壯；小葉柄長 0.2~0.4 公分；無托葉。 Here is the translation for the leaf characteristics of the **Taiwan Goldenrain Tree:**

## Translation:

- **Leaves:**
  - **Type: Bipinnately compound leaves** (double-feathered), measuring **50–70 cm long** and **20–30 cm wide**.
  - **Pinnae (Leaflet branches):** 7–9 pairs, each **20–25 cm long** and **10–15 cm wide**.
  - **Leaflets:** 10–13 leaflets per pinna, arranged **oppositely or nearly oppositely**.
  - **Shape:** Oblong-ovate, **5–7 cm long** and **2.5–3 cm wide** (though shape and size vary frequently).
  - **Apex & Base:** Tips are **acute (sharp)**; the base is **obtuse and asymmetrical (oblique)**.
  - **Texture & Margin:** Paper-like (chartaceous) with **serrated (saw-toothed) edges**.
  - **Color:** The upper surface is a **glossy green**, while the underside is a paler light green. Both sides are **glabrous (smooth and hairless)**.
  - **Venation:** The midrib is recessed on the top and prominently raised on the underside; there are **10–12 pairs of lateral veins**, which are indistinct on top but raised underneath.
  - **Petioles:** The main leaf stalk is **3–6 cm long and sturdy**; the small leaflet stalks (petiolules) are very short (**0.2–0.4 cm**).
  - **Stipules:** Absent.

## • 花：

花小形，多數，開放時徑 0.4~0.6 公分，黃色，雌雄同株或雜性花多數，呈頂生的圓錐花序；花序長 30~45 公分，光滑無毛茸；花柄長 0.3~0.7 公分；花萼深裂呈不相等的裂片；裂片長 0.12~0.15 公分；花瓣 5 枚，披針形或卵狀披針形，長 0.7~0.9 公分，寬 0.3~0.4 公分，先端銳尖而有尖突，光滑無毛；雄蕊 7~8 枚，伸出花外；花絲有絨毛；子房上位，基部有毛茸，2 室，每室有胚珠 2 枚，花柱 3 裂；秋季開黃色花。 **Flowers:**

- **Size and Quantity:** Flowers are small but numerous; when open, the diameter is only **0.4–0.6 cm**.
- **Color and Type:** **Yellow** in color. The tree is monoecious (having separate male and female

flowers on the same plant) or polygamous (having male, female, and bisexual flowers).

- **Inflorescence:** Arranged in large **terminal panicles** (at the tips of branches); the flower clusters are **30–45 cm long** and smooth/hairless.
- **Pedice (Flower Stalk):** 0.3–0.7 cm long.
- **Calyx (Sepals):** Deeply lobed into unequal segments, each about 0.12–0.15 cm long.
- **Petals:** 5 petals, lanceolate or ovate-lanceolate in shape, **0.7–0.9 cm long** and 0.3–0.4 cm wide. The tips are acute with a small point, and they are smooth/hairless.
- **Stamens:** 7–8 stamens that protrude out of the flower; the **filaments are covered in fine velvet-like hairs**.
- **Ovary:** Superior ovary with hairs at the base; 2-celled, with 2 ovules per cell; the style is 3-lobed.
- **Blooming Season:** Flowers bloom in **Autumn**.

果實為蒴果，由像燈籠狀粉紅色的三瓣片合成，形似紅色的小氣球，相當耀眼，成熟時轉為褐色，蒴果顏色由淡紅轉為紫褐，從果瓣中肋裂開，種子像是夾在三片蝶衣中，黑褐色。

#### **Fruit:**

- **Type:** The fruit is a **capsule**, composed of **three pinkish, lantern-like valves** (petals/segments).
- **Appearance:** These segments fuse together to look like **small red balloons**, which are quite striking and eye-catching.
- **Color Transition:** As they mature, the capsules turn from **light red to a purplish-brown**, eventually drying into a dark brown shade.
- **Dehiscence (Opening):** The capsule splits open along the midrib of each valve.
- **Seeds:** The seeds appear as if "sandwiched" between three **butterfly-wing-like segments**; they are **blackish-brown** in color.

#### • 果實：

#### • 特性：

落葉大喬木，小枝密佈皮孔，樹皮灰褐色。 是本省特有的植物。二回羽狀複葉，小葉卵形，先端尖，有鋸齒緣。秋季開黃色花，頂生圓錐花序。果實為蒴果，由粉紅色的三瓣片合成，氣囊狀，膨大，胞背 3 裂，成熟時轉為褐色；種子球形，徑 0.4~0.5 公分，黑褐色，

有光澤。此時紅色的椿象滿布於樹枝上，而空中往往可見成群燕子盤旋捕食椿象，形成完整的食物鏈。為台灣特有樹種且名列世界十大名木之一。因葉形似苦楝故又稱「苦楝舅」；至於為何稱四色樹？因從滿株綠葉到開花時呈黃色，結果時又轉為紅褐色，直至蒴果乾枯成為褐色而掉落，共有四色，觀賞期特長，所以被稱為四色樹。台灣到處都有栽植。每年初秋開花時柔黃色的圓錐花簇密生樹頂，遠望就像金雨灑落。台灣欒樹有個美麗的洋名，就叫做「台灣金雨樹」。

### Characteristics & Ecology

- **Growth Habit:** A large **deciduous tree**. The small twigs are densely covered with lenticels (breathing pores), and the bark is a distinct **grayish-brown**.
- **Status:** It is a **species endemic to Taiwan** and is recognized as one of the **world's top ten most famous ornamental trees**.
- **Foliage:** Features **bipinnately compound leaves**; the leaflets are ovate with pointed tips and serrated (saw-toothed) margins. Because the leaf shape resembles the Chinaberry tree (*Melia azedarach*), it is colloquially known as "**Chinaberry's Uncle**" (苦楝舅).
- **Flowers & Fruit:**
  - In **autumn**, it produces **yellow flowers** in terminal panicles.
  - The fruit is a **capsule** composed of three pink, balloon-like (inflated) valves. It is heart-shaped and puffed up like an air sac.
  - When mature, the capsule turns **brown** and splits into three parts.
  - **Seeds:** Spherical, **0.4–0.5 cm** in diameter, blackish-brown, and glossy.