

中文名稱：油桐

• 英文名稱：Tung Tree 、 Tung Oil Tree

• 學名：  
*Aluerites fordii*Hemsi 三年桐、光桐、油桐  
*Vernicia fordii*(Hemsl.) Airy Shaw(中國植物誌)  
*Aleurites montana*E. H. Wilson 千年桐、廣東油桐、皺桐、油桐、木油桐  
*Vernicia montana*Lour.(木油桐-中國植物誌)

• 科名：大戟科(Euphorbiaceae) 油桐屬(Vernicia)

• 別名：

• 原產地：中國大陸，分布在廣東、廣西等地。本省廣泛栽培於低海拔山區。 **Native Origin: Mainland China**, primarily distributed in regions such as **Guangdong** and **Guangxi**.  
 **In Taiwan:** Widely cultivated throughout **low-altitude mountainous areas** across the province.

油桐樹屬於經濟樹，其種子可榨取可作工業用油。木材可製傢俱、火柴棒、木屐和牙籤等。果實榨出的油還可以做成油漆和防水油，如美濃紙傘的傘面，就是用桐油上光。庭園樹、行道樹。The Tung tree is a highly valuable **economic tree species** with versatile applications:

- 用途：
- **Industrial Oil (Tung Oil):** The seeds are crushed to extract **Tung Oil**, a drying oil used in industrial applications.
  - **Waterproofing & Coatings:** Historically used to produce paint and waterproof coatings. A classic example is the **Meinong paper umbrellas**, where the canopy is coated with Tung oil for a lustrous, waterproof finish.
  - **Timber Products:** The wood is used to manufacture **furniture, matchsticks, wooden clogs (geta), and toothpicks**.
  - **Landscaping:** Frequently planted as **garden ornaments** or **roadside trees** due to its beautiful white blossoms.

• 莖：樹高可達十公尺以上，樹皮尚稱平滑。 **Habit:** A deciduous tree reaching heights of over **10 meters**.

**Bark:** Relatively smooth in texture.

葉子為綠色的，葉互生具長柄，單葉，心形或具三或五裂片，脈網顯著。葉基有一對杯狀腺體，具吸引螞蟻、蜜蜂、蝴蝶等昆蟲的功能。□ **Structure:** Green, alternate leaves with long petioles (leaf stalks).

- **葉：**
  - **Shape:** Simple leaves, typically **heart-shaped (cordate)** or with 3 to 5 lobes. The leaf venation is prominent and web-like (reticulate).
  - **Nectar Glands:** A defining feature is a **pair of cup-shaped glands** at the base of the leaf. These glands secrete nectar to attract ants, bees, and butterflies, serving an ecological role in defense or pollination.

單性，雌雄同株異花，花瓣白色，五瓣，雄花具雄蕊 8~10，中心為紅黃色，花成一大簇。聚繖花序頂生，春季 3~5 月開花。由於花身輕盈曼妙，風一吹來，滿山遍野的白色油桐花翩翩飛舞，如大片飛雪飄落，故油桐花又有「五月雪」的美稱。□ **Reproduction: Monoecious** (separate male and female flowers on the same tree).

- **花：**
  - **Appearance:** Each flower has **5 white petals**. Male flowers contain 8 – 10 stamens, with a vibrant reddish-yellow center.
  - **Inflorescence:** Large clusters of terminal **cymes** (聚繖花序).
  - **Blooming Season:** March to May.
  - **Cultural Note:** Due to their delicate and light nature, the blossoms flutter in the wind like snowflakes, earning the poetic nickname "**May Snow**" (五月雪).

果實先端圓鈍，果皮散生多數皺紋，種子為闊卵形。果實內有種子 3~5 顆。□ **Fruit:** The apex is blunt and rounded. The skin (exocarp) is scattered with numerous **wrinkles**.

- **果實：**
  - **Seeds:** Each fruit contains **3 to 5 broad-ovate seeds**, which are the source of industrial Tung oil.

油桐樹在植物上的分類屬大戟科常綠喬木，台灣有木油桐（千年桐、廣東油桐、皺桐、油桐(台灣)，果皮有皺摺），和油桐（三年桐、光桐，果皮光滑）兩個品種，主要區別在於核果的形狀不同。引進台灣，已有上百年的歷史，其原產於長江流域。

- **特性：**

比較：油桐 學名：*Aleurites fordii*Hemsi，花期：4~7 月  
(三年桐、光桐、油桐)(Tung tree or Tung oil tree)

木油桐 學名：*Aleurites montana* E. H. Wilson，花期：3~5 月

(千年桐、廣東油桐、皺桐、油桐)(Tung tree、Tung oil tree) **General Overview (概述):**

In botanical classification, Tung trees belong to the **Euphorbiaceae** (Spurge family). They were introduced

to Taiwan over a century ago and are native to the Yangtze River basin in China. In Taiwan, there are two primary species: **Vernicia fordii** (Smooth Tung) and **Vernicia montana** (Wrinkled Tung). The main distinction lies in the **texture and shape of their drupes (fruits)**.

#### Comparison Table: The Two Major Species

特徵 (Feature)	三年桐 (Smooth Tung)	千年桐 / 木油桐 (Wrinkled Tung)
學名 (Scientific Name)	<i>Vernicia fordii</i> (syn. <i>Aleurites fordii</i> )	<i>Vernicia montana</i> (syn. <i>Aleurites montana</i> )
常見別名 (Aliases)	光桐、油桐、三年桐 (Tung Tree)	千年桐、廣東油桐、皺桐 (Tung Tree)
果皮特徵 (Fruit Skin)	Smooth (光滑); apex is usually pointed.	Wrinkled (有皺摺); surface is uneven.
花期 (Bloom Period)	April to July (slightly later)	March to May (earlier)
生長與產量	Grows fast, starts producing oil in 3 years, but has a shorter lifespan.	Slower to mature but lives much longer with higher cumulative yield.