

Annona squamosa

Scientific classification

Kingdom : Plantae

Order : Magnoliales

Family : Annonaceae

Genus : *Annona*

Species : *A. squamosa*



A. squamosa

DESCRIPTION

Branches with light brown bark and visible leaf scars; inner bark light yellow and slightly bitter; twigs become brown with light brown dots (lenticels – small, oval, rounded spots upon the stem or branch of a plant, from which the underlying tissues may protrude or roots may issue). Thin, simple, alternate **leaves** occur singly, 5 centimetres (2.0 in) to 17 centimetres (6.7 in) long and 2 centimetres (0.79 in) to 6 centimetres (2.4 in) wide; rounded at the base and pointed at the tip (oblong-lanceolate). Pale **green** on both surfaces and mostly hairless with slight hairs on the underside when young. The sides sometimes are slightly unequal and the leaf edges are without teeth, inconspicuously hairy when young. Leaf stalks are 0.4 centimetres (0.16 in) to 2.2 centimetres (0.87 in)^[8] long, green, and sparsely pubescent.

MEDICINAL USES :

- In traditional Indian, Thai, and American medicine, the leaves are used in a decoction to treat dysentery and urinary tract infection.
- In traditional Indian medicine, they are also crushed and applied to wounds. In Mexico, the leaves are rubbed on floors and put in hens' nests to repel lice. In Haiti the fruit is known as Cachiman and is used to make juice. In Lebanon and Syria, it is made into a variety of deserts and referred to as 'ashta'.