

83. SABIACEAE

Trees or shrubs, seldom climbing. Leaves alternate, simple or compound, estipulate. Flowers small, bisexual, usually paniced; calyx 4- or 5-partite, imbricate; petals 4 or 5, equal or unequal, opposite or alternate with sepals, imbricate; disc usually small, annular; stamens 4 or 5, opposite petals, inserted at base of or on disc, all perfect or 2 perfect and 3 without anthers: filaments clavate, flattened or subulate; anthers didymous, cells distinct, usually adnate to large connective; ovaries 2- or 3-celled; styles distinct or connate, rarely none; stigmas punctiform; ovules 1 or 2 in each cell. Fruits drupaceous, dry or fleshy, indehiscent; seeds compressed or globose, exalbuminous or with thin albumen, embryo various; cotyledons contorted.

Genera 4, species 130; throughout South-Central America, the West Indies, southeastern Asia to Malesia; 2 genera and 14 species in the Philippines.

1. MELIOSMA Blume

Trees or shrubs. Leaves simple or odd-pinnate; leaflets subopposite, terminal rarely wanting. Flowers in branched, terminal or subterminal panicles, supported by bracteoles similar to sepals; sepals somewhat unequal, generally 5, ciliate, rarely glabrate; petals 5, dissimilar, three outer concave or orbicular, 2 inner much smaller, bifid; stamens 5, fertile ones adnate to smaller petals, 3 sterile ones opposite larger petals; anther cells attached to a large, flat connective; disc cupular or annular, toothed; ovaries 2- rarely 3-celled; ovules 2 in each cell; styles simple, subulate. Fruits small, drupaceous, subglobose, generally oblique, 1-seeded; seeds crustaceous, globose.

Species 25; throughout South-Central America, the West Indies, southeastern and eastern Asia; 2 species and 8 subspecies in the Philippines.

1. Leaves 60 cm long or less; leaflets slightly oblique at base; dry fruits reticulate, subtended by lobed calyx 1. *M. pinnata* ssp. *sylvatica*
1. Leaves 60 cm long or more; leaflets obtusely rounded or shallowly cordate at base; dry fruits smooth, subtended by apiculate calyx 2. *M. pinnata* ssp. *macrophylla*

1. *Meliosma pinnata* (Roxb.) Walp. ssp. *sylvatica* (Elm.) v. Beus., *Blumea* 19: 513, 1971; v. Beus & v.d. Water., *Fl. Mal. Ser. I*, 10: 713, 1989. – *M. sylvatica* Elm., *Leaflet. Philip. Bot.* 2: 492, 1908; Merr., *En. Philip.* 2: 518, 1923.

Shrubs or small trees. Leaves 30-50 cm long; leaflets 9-15, oblong, 15 x 5 cm, midrib with 10 pairs of nerves, basal ones gradually reduced, ovate, often tinged with red on paler side, serrately denticulate, sharply acuminate, obtuse at slightly oblique, entire base; petiolules 5-15 mm long. Panicles terminal, equaling or exceeding foliage, stout branches puberulent. Flowers pale white; pedicels short, subtended by sparsely hairy bracts; calyx prominently lobed, glabrous, persistent. Fruits 8 mm long, reddish in fresh mature state, conspicuously reticulate when dry, obscurely compressed, short-pedicelled, subtended by lobed calyx.

Central Celebes and the Philippines (Luzon to Visayas). In Mt. Makiling, Luzon, mostly in the dipterocarp forest.

Com. name – *Kadabu* (Buk.).

Exsicc. – *Elmer 18252, 1237675* (US).

2. *Meliosma pinnata* (Roxb.) Walp. ssp. *macrophylla* (Merr.) v. Beus, *Blumea* 19: 510, f. 33, 1971; v. Beus & v.d. Water, *Fl. Mal. Ser. I*, 10: 711, 1989. – *M. macrophylla* Merr., *Philip. J. Sc.* 7(Bot.): 294, 1912; *En. Philip.* 2: 517, 1923. **Figure 97**

Trees large. Leaves up to 1 m long, alternately clustered toward ends of twigs; leaflets 15-17, ovately oblong, 25 x 18 cm, midrib with 9-13 pairs of ascending nerves, sharply acuminate, base obtusely rounded or shallowly cordate; petiolules 1 cm long. Inflorescences terminal, paniculate, equaling leaves, thick branches brown-puberulent. Flowers whitish, densely crowded along ultimate branches, glomerated upon short tubercles, subtended by finely pubescent bracts. Fruits ovoid to subglobose, 5-6 mm thick, glabrous, smooth, upon short stalks, subtended by apiculate calyx.

East Malesia, Celebes, Moluccas, throughout New Guinea to New Britain. Throughout the Philippines, in primary forests at low and medium altitudes, up to 900 m; in Mt. Makiling, Luzon, at 200-700 m.

Com. name – *Balilang-uwak* (Tag.).

Exsicc. – *Calacosa CA 1725** (CAHP).

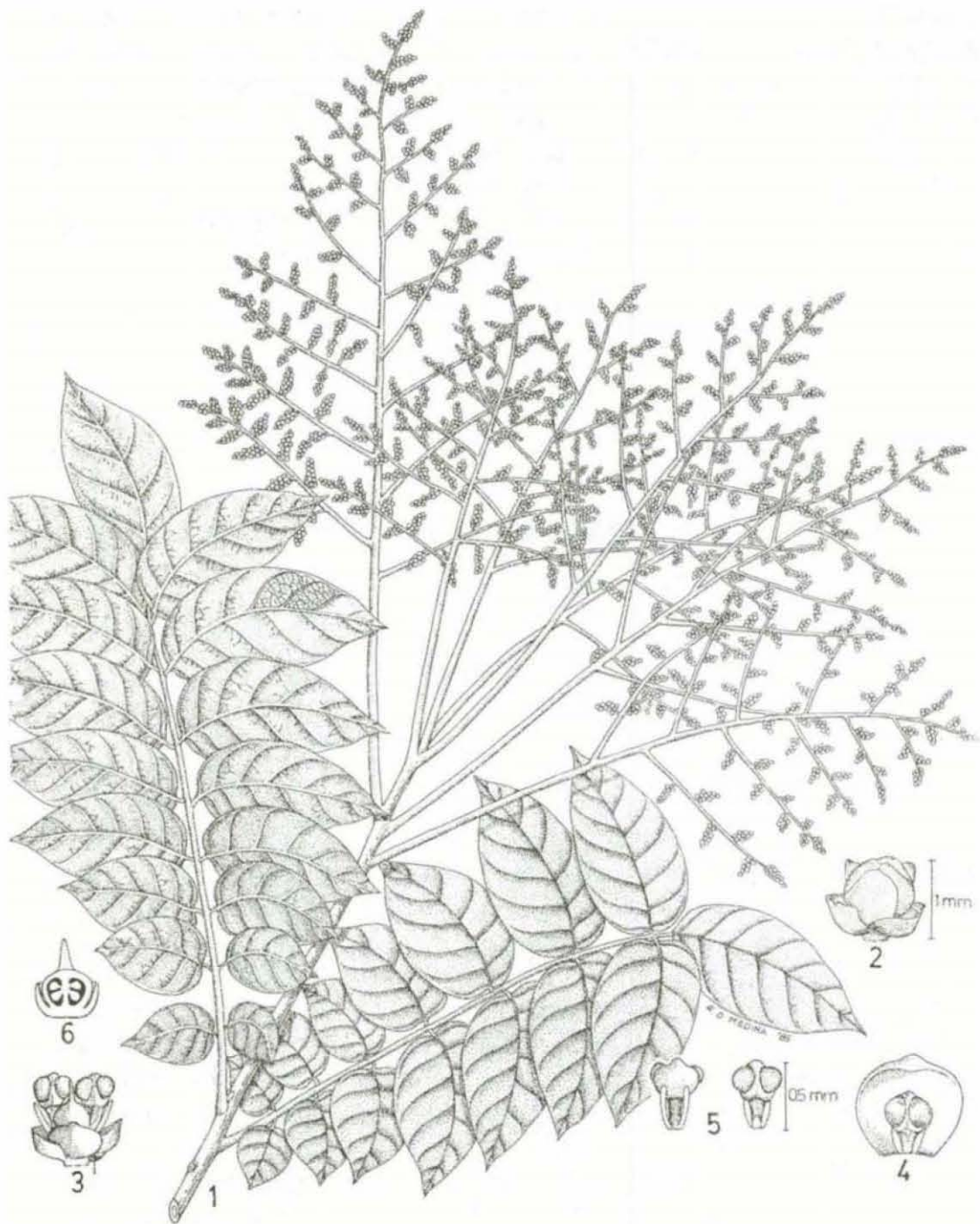


Figure 97. *Meliosma pinnata* ssp. *macrophylla*: 1. flowering twig; 2. flower; 3. flower, petals removed; 4. petal with attached stamen; 5. stamen, 2 views; 6. ovary, vertical section.