

## ASSAM

**State Tree:** Hollong

**Botanical Name:** *Dipterocarpus macrocarpus* Vesque (= *Dipterocarpus retusus* Blume)

**Vernacular Names:** Hollong, Hullung (Assamese).

**Family:** Dipterocarpaceae

**Etymology:** The specific epithet, '**macrocarpus**' is attributed to its large capsule (macro = large, carpus = capsule).



***Dipterocarpus macrocarpus*** Vesque  
Photo Courtesy: Dr. Bhuyan

**Description:** Large gregarious tree, to 45 m tall; trunk 3.5 – 6 m in diam. with a long cylindrical bole and a small spherical crown when mature; young shoots and petioles covered with dull-brown hairs. Leaves elliptic-oblong, shortly acuminate at apex, 25 – 46 × 14 – 24 cm, membranous, glabrous when mature. Flowers usually solitary, 5.8 – 7.5 cm long. Calyx-tube turbinate, silky-pubescent inside, velvety-puberulous outside. Petals 5, subfalcately oblanceolate, ca 6.5 × 1.5 – 2 cm, membranous, imbricate, pinkish. Stamens ca 30; filaments dilated at base; anthers oblong with a pair of tubercles at base. Ovary ovoid, 5 – 6 × 3 – 4 mm, silky-pubescent; style ca 1.5 cm long, tapering from the top of the ovary. Fruits ovoid, ca 5 × 3.5 cm with enlarged wing-like calyx lobes.

**Flowering & Fruiting:** June – July and January – March.

**Range of distribution:** India, Myanmar, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam.

**Economic Importance:** The timber is used in

construction of house, especially for planking. Wood used for plywood, internal construction work and also used as railway sleepers. Oleoresin from the tree used as lubricant and in soap works.

**Traditional Knowledge:** Not known.

**Medicinal Uses:** Not known.

**Note:** Easily recognized from a distant by its towering over the heads of nearly all its associates. The tree is fire-sensitive.

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