

# *Cerbera manghas*

## Faux manguier

Family : Apocynaceae



This small evergreen tree is often twisted. Its grey and rough bark cracks in a checkerboard pattern with age. It has a white, sticky and irritating latex. Its foliage is a beautiful shiny green.



Its pure white flowers are enhanced by a pinkish-red center and have a very fragrant sweet scent ; they are arranged in clusters. The fruit, which looks like a mango, is fibrous inside and floats on the surface of the water, which can be spread by sea currents ; it is quite frequently washed ashore. Be careful, the fruit contains 1 or 2 very toxic seeds at the origin of many accidents.

### Virtues



#### Traditional uses

- In Kanak culture, represents a link between the world of the living and the dead
- Natural poison for fishing
- Making necklace with flowers



#### Pharmacopoeia

- In very low doses, very effective in treating heart problems
- Use of the bark to treat bruises and use of the latex as a remedy for asthma

