



Pterocarpus Santalinus

Red Sandalwood (Pterocarpus Santalinus)

Pterocarpus santalinus, more commonly known as red sandalwood, is a tree restricted to the southern parts of the Eastern Ghats in India.

Family: Fabaceae

Local name (Telugu): Erra chandanm or Rakta chandanam, Red Sanders

Distribution: Endemic to southern parts of Eastern Ghats of Peninsular India.

This plant is in red list; Listed as an endangered plant by BSI and IUCN; It is common in hill slopes associated with *Anogeissus latifolia*. As the wood is highly valuable the plants are decreased in number in wild.

Description:

Leaves 1-3 foliate, coriaceous, ovate-orbicular, Flowers yellow in terminal racemes.

It grows in dry and deciduous forests. The International Union for Conservation of Nature and

Natural Resources (IUCN) considers red sandalwood endangered for its decreased population in the past 13 years as of 2010. People have frequently overexploited the tree because of its commercial value. Additionally, the tree has medicinal and cosmetic purposes. At present groups monitor internationally to save the plant species.