



***Meyna Laxiflora***  
**ROBYNS FRUIT:**  
**AN UNDERUTILIZED CROP**  
**IN THE KONKAN REGION OF**  
**MAHARASHTRA**

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# INTRODUCTION

Despite growing in the wild and not being domesticated or grown, certain kinds of wild edible plants (WEPs) are edible. Some species that are collected or harvested from their wild natural habitats and used as food for humans are introduced by wild edible plants (WEPs). It is estimated that India alone consumes almost 800 species of WEP. Several investigations into the use of WEPs by the locals in Maharashtra's Northern Western Ghats region have been documented. The districts of Pune, Satara, Sangli, Kolhapur, Thane, Raigad, Nashik, Ahmednagar, Nandurbar, Dhule, Ratnagiri, and Sindhudurg are located in the northern part of the Western Ghats. Wild food plants are used daily by the rural and regional residents in these districts. WEP is recognized as a great dietary source of various vitamins and minerals, including potassium, magnesium, iron, sodium, calcium, and phosphorus.

## TAXONOMY OF MEYNA LAXIFLORA ROBYNS

*Meyna laxiflora* Robyns is one of the eleven unique species that have recently been separated and classified within the genus *Meyna*.

Domain	<i>Eukaryota</i>
Kingdom	<i>Plantae</i>
Subkingdom	<i>Viridaeplantae</i>
Phylum	<i>Tracheophyta</i>
Subphylum	<i>Euphylllophytina</i>
Infraphylum	<i>Radiatopses</i>
Class	<i>Mangoliospida</i>
Subclass	<i>Asteridae</i>
Superorder	<i>Gentiananae</i>
Order	<i>Gentianales</i>
Family	<i>Rubiaceae</i>
Genus	<i>Meyna</i>
Species	<i>Meyna laxiflora</i> Robyns
Habitat	<i>Tree/Shrub</i>

*Meyna* is found in tropical and subtropical climates all over the world. It grows as a tiny tree or shrub in evergreen forests, and the natives eat its fruits (Figure 2). Assam, Meghalaya, Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Nepal, Maharashtra (Konkan) Deccan, etc. are the main Indian locations where it is available.

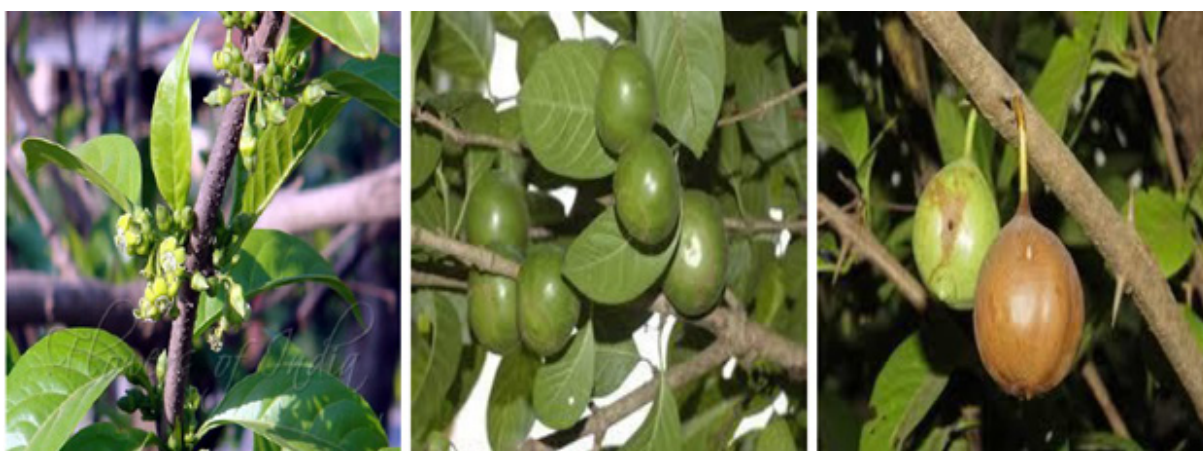
However, it is widely accessible throughout Maharashtra (MH), including the districts of Nashik, Sangli, Kolhapur, Thane, Raigad, Nandurbar, Dhule, Ahmednagar, Pune, Satara, Ratnagiri, and Sindhudurg; additionally, it is available in the Satpuda region, specifically in Sawarimal, Umarpata, Morkaranja, and kondaibari villages of Nandurbar district, as well as in Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Gujarat.



Territory	Regional Names
English	May-nuh
Marathi	Alu, Huloo/Helu, Aliv/Alav, Halawn
Gujarati	Alu, Atu
Sanskrit	Taskar, Pindi, Pinditaka, Pindu, Nagakesarah, Phenil, Pichuk, Shalya, Pindituka, Vrishchika
Hindi	Moina, Bahu-vij, Moyna/Mayan (Manipur), Muduna, Muyuna, Pundrika, Dal-amal
Kannada	Mullakare, gundkare, gobergally, Chegu gedde
Local name	Alive, Alav, Olami, Awala, Ulama, Heibi (in Manipur, India Samatan (Pnar-in Meghalaya)
Assamese	Kutkura, Moin
Telgu	Segagadda, Vichikilamu, Chega, Manga, Veliki
Urdu	Main
Tamil	Manakkarai
Bengal	Mainphal, Muduna, Muyna, Muyuna, Moynakanta (West Bengal, India)

## TRADITIONAL USES OF MEYNA LAXIFLORA ROBYNS

According to a recent ethnomedical survey, tribes from numerous villages in the Satpuda hills employ plants as food ingredients or as remedies for gastrointestinal illnesses, kidney stones, inflammation, and other illnesses. Oral use of powder can cure most disorders, including diarrhea, menstruation issues, stomach aches, and urinary tract infections; local application can treat inflammation.



## FRUIT

The tribal population in Maharashtra's Western Ghats prefers dried fruits as a narcotic and young fruits as a vegetable in culinary recipes. The fruit is utilized in fruit-cholagogue, a mixture used to treat biliary complaints and hepatic congestion, as well as an anti-dysentery. The fruit can also be used for ethnomedicinal purposes. A sore throat and intestinal worms.

## SEEDS

In Nashik District, kidney stones are treated with five pinches of seed powder mixed with water, administered twice daily for 15 days.

## LEAVES

People in North West Maharashtra masticate leaves to treat gastrointestinal conditions, such as bloating of the abdomen. The Nashik district tribes use fresh leaves smeared with coconut oil to form a paste after gently heating the leaves to treat swellings or goiters usually.

# TECHNOLOGICAL APPLICATION OF MEYNA FRUIT

