

ÅHGAO

Botanical Name: *Premna serratifolia*
Native range: Southeast Asia and Pacific Islands

Common Name: False Elder



Description: Åhgao is a medium-sized tree (up to 40 ft.). It has oval, glossy-like leaves that often have holes and galls. The tiny whitish-green flowers are crowded into many-branched inflorescences near branch tips.

Uses and cultural significance: The whole plant possesses medicinal properties, useful in the treatment of cardiovascular diseases, skin diseases, inflammatory diseases, arthritis, gonorrhea, rheumatism, anorexia and jaundice. It is an important Ayurvedic medicinal herb.

How To Grow and Care For This Plant

Sun	Water	Soil	Fertilizer	Pests+Diseases
Full sun.	Water regularly, don't allow the soil to dry completely between waterings.	Grows in limestone, coastal, and savanna environments. Prefers loamy, well-drained, moist soils with a pH of 6.5.	Apply a balanced fertilizer with an N-P-K ratio of 10-10-10.	Papaya fruit fly.

Propagation

Åhgao is propagated by seeds or air layering.

Resources:

- Raulerson, L. and Rinehart, A. 2021. *Trees and shrubs of the Northern Marianas Islands*. University of Guam Press, Guam. 53p.
- Wikicommons (photo sources)

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