



## Garcinia Kusumae

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Researchers have discovered a new species of tree, ***Garcinia kusumae***, in Assam, enriching the region's floral biodiversity.

- ***Garcinia kusumae*** is a newly identified species in the **genus *Garcinia***, locally known as thoikora in Assamese.
  - The ***Garcinia* genus (family: Clusiaceae)** includes 414 species globally, with 33 species and 7 varieties found in India. Assam alone hosts 12 species and 3 varieties.
  - *Garcinia kusumae* is a **dioecious evergreen tree**, growing up to 18 meters, flowering from February to April, and fruiting from May to June. It differs morphologically from related species such as ***G. assamica*, *G. cowa*, and *G. succifolia***, notably in flower structure and fruit resin characteristics.
- **Ethnobotanical Significance:** The fruit pulp is **culturally and medicinally** significant. It is used to make a sherbet to prevent heat stroke, added to curries, eaten raw with condiments, and serves as a traditional remedy for **diabetes and dysentery**.



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