



***Quercus leucotrichophora* A. Camus**

**Family:** Fagaceae

**Common name:** Ban, Oak



**Description:**

*Quercus leucotrichophora* grows to a height of 15-25 m. It has a full, rounded canopy. The bark is a smooth tan-brown at first, becoming lightly furrowed and corky with age. The leaves are alternate, elongated ovals with jagged teeth. Young leaves are pink purple in colour and the upper surface turns deep green as it matures, while the lower side is silvery grey due to the presence of white hairs. The male inflorescences are borne on the tips of the branches, while the tiny round female flowers are borne at the base of the leaves. The fruits are orange-tan, marble-sized acorns.

**Utilization:**

The banj oak is a multipurpose tree. The acorns are edible and can be dried, ground and used to thicken stews or to make bread. The seeds can be roasted to prepare a coffee substitute. It is also a good fuel and makes a good charcoal ( Heuze *et al.*, 2013).

**References:**

Heuzé V, Tran G; (2016)Banj oak (*Quercus leucotrichophora*). Feedipedia, a programme by INRA, CIRAD, AFZ and FAO. <http://www.feedipedia.org/node/108>.