



***Sapindus mukorossi* Gaertn.**

**Family:** Sapindaceae

**Common names:** Reetha



**Description:**

*Sapindus mukorossi* is a tall, deciduous tree with a straight trunk attaining a height of 20 m with a globose crown. Bark is dark to pale yellow, fairly smooth, with many vertical lines of lenticels. Leaves are 30-50 cm long, alternate, paripinnate; glabrous; leaflets 5-10 pairs, opposite or alternate, lanceolate, acuminate, entire and glabrous. Inflorescence is a compound terminal panicle. Flowers are small, terminal, greenish white, sub sessile and many in number. Fruits are globose, fleshy, 1-seeded drupe, sometimes two drupels together.

**Utilization:**

The soap nut contains the compound of saponin, which has natural cleansing properties, and therefore the soap nut can be used as a cleanser for hair, skin, and clothing (Sharma *et al.*,2011). The jewelers in India use this plant to bring back the lost brightness of ornaments made of precious metals like gold, silver, etc. It has been placed as a popular herb in the list of herbs and minerals in Ayurveda and is used as an important ingredient in cleansers and shampoos. The herb is also used in the treatment of extra salvation, migraine, epilepsy and chlorosis (Sharma *et al.*,2011).

Part	Uses
Leaf	Epilepsy, constipation and nausea

**References:**

Sharma A, Sati S. C, Sati O, Sati D. M, Kothiyal S. K; (2011). "Chemical constituents and bio activities of genus *Sapindus*". International Journal of Research in Ayurveda & Pharmacy. 2 (2): 403–409.