



戶外通識教室：大笨象的耳朵-血桐

Nature's Classroom: Elephant's Ear (*Macaranga tanarius*)

血桐，又稱象耳，本地原生種，大戟科中等常綠喬木。葉柄在葉片中部伸出，稱為盾狀着生，葉形盾形。此樹粗生，喜陽光，故常見於路旁作遮蔭樹。其有趣之處較小人留意，就是樹愈細則葉片愈大。當其枝幹破損折斷時，流出的樹液經氧化後會轉成血紅色，故名。其樹皮及根可入藥，治痢疾及咳血，種子可用來榨取工業用油。



Known as “Bloody Tree” in Chinese as its broken offshoot or trunk will discharge a liquid and turn blood red after oxidation. In English, its name is “Elephant’s Ear” because of the shape of its large leaves. In botany, this is known as peltate.