

Coconut palm

Common name: Coconut palm

Botanical name: *Cocos nucifera*

Family: Areaceae; **Name in Tamil:** *Thenai*



Field identification: Tall, 20-30m height, trunk marked by rings (scars from fallen leaves). Crowned by apical cluster of feathery like leaves, 3-4 m long, with stout stalks. 3 cornered fruit, 25 -37 cm long with fibrous pericarp.

Location on campus: within residential compounds

References: (i) Sahni, K.C. (1998) *The Book of Indian Trees*. Mumbai: Bombay Natural History Society/ Oxford University Press. p 185 (ii) Menon, S., Bagla, P. (1999) *Trees of India*. New Delhi, Timeless Books. p41-43.