

# TAXONOMIC STATE OF ZIZYPHUS: A COMPARATIVE STUDY FOR IDENTIFICATION OF COMMON INDIAN JUJUBE.

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**Abstract:** The wild edible *Indian jujube* is one of the diffused species wild resources in India. The Indian species described under the name *Zizyphus mauritiana* Lamk., is native from the province of Yunnan in Southern China to Afghanistan, Malaysia and Queensland. *Zizyphus jujuba* has been distinguished into two main groups, *Chinese jujube* and *Indian jujube*. Actual Taxonomy of *Zizyphus* as found in the literature as well as in various herbaria is all chaos and confusion. Till now several attempts has been made in Indian flora to study Taxonomy of *Zizyphus species*, but the nomenclature of entire genus is unclear as also the taxonomic identity of the varieties. In most of the Indian flora, Indian jujube has been described under the name of *Zizyphus jujube*. but several botanists distinguish Indian jujube as *Zizyphus mauritiana* Lam. The present paper discusses the comparative study of *Zizyphus jujube* mill. and *Zizyphus mauritiana* Lamk. and also study actual taxonomic state of *Zizyphus mauritiana* Lamk. and *Zizyphus jujuba* Mill. on the basis of leaf and fruit morphology, which helps us to identify the species present in India.

**Key words:** *Zizyphus jujuba* Mill., Taxonomic state, Flora, *Zizyphus Mauritiana Lamk.*, Leaf Morphology, Fruit Morphology.

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