



TREE SPECIES (SCIENTIFIC NAME)

# *Myrsine coriacea*

PERU COMMON NAME

Palo agua, Cucharo, Espadero, Mantecoso

TREE FAMILY

**MYRSINACEAE**

AVERAGE LEAF SIZE (CM)

**5.46cm × 1.98cm**  
Length Width

DISTRIBUTION



**NATIVE TO PERU**

ELEVATIONAL RANGE (M)

**500-3500M**

TREE HEIGHT

**SMALL (10-20M)**



NATIVE TO

**Region:** Americas

**Latin America:** Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela

## COFFEE AGROFORESTRY INFORMATION

COFFEE SYSTEM

 **ARABICA**

COFFEE IMPACT

 **BENEFICIAL TO COFFEE**

TREE MANAGEMENT

Planted from stake, cuttings or seeds. The seeds are dispersed by animals, mainly by birds that feed on the ripe fruits. Best planted as soon as it is ripe in a partially shaded nursery. A low germination rate can be expected, with the seed sprouting within 30-60 days. When seedlings are 4-5 cm tall, plant them in individual containers. Seedlings will be ready for planting outside 5-6 months later. The seed can not be stored more than 3 months. It has an average incidence of pests.

CULTIVATION

 **PLANTED**  
 **NATURAL**

PREVALENCE

 **COMMON IN COFFEE AGROFORESTRY**

## TREE BENEFITS AND USES

FARMER USES



**Firewood, Lumber, Medicinal**

Used for fence posts. The leaves are used against stings.

FARM SERVICES



**Coffee Shade, Windbreak, Soil Improvement, Reforestation**

Coffee Shade: provides sparse shade

Reforestation: it can be used as a pioneer species in the restoration of native forests

BIODIVERSITY BENEFITS

 **YES**

It provides fruit for many resident birds such as tanagers, woodpeckers and migratory birds such as thrushes. It retains arthropods in leaves, flowers and bark that are consumed by insectivorous birds. The flowers are visited by bees and other insects. The seeds are dispersed by animals, mainly birds.

Last Updated: August 15, 2023

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Tropical Plants Database, Ken Fern. [tropical.theferns.info](http://tropical.theferns.info). 2022-07-08. [tropical.theferns.info/viewtropical.php?id=Myrsine+coriacea](http://tropical.theferns.info/viewtropical.php?id=Myrsine+coriacea)

Mendoza, A. L. M., & Guerrero, M. H. (2010). Catálogo de los árboles y afines de la Selva Central del Perú. Amaldoa, 17, 203-242.