



Lanzones

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Lanzones Tree Research

The **lanzones tree** (*Lansium domesticum*), also called langsat or lanzón, is a tropical fruit tree native to Southeast Asia. Here are its main characteristics:

Lanzones Tree Characteristics

- **Type:** Tropical, evergreen tree.
- **Height:** Usually **10–30 meters** tall when mature.
- **Trunk & Bark:** Trunk is straight with a smooth to slightly rough bark, grayish-brown in color.

Leaves

- **Arrangement:** Alternate, pinnate compound leaves.
- **Leaflets:** 5–7 oblong to elliptic leaflets, glossy green on the upper side.
- **Size:** Each leaflet about **9–20 cm long**.

Flowers

- **Color:** Pale yellow to greenish-white.
- **Type:** Small, borne on clusters (panicles) directly on the trunk and large branches (cauliflorous).
- **Sexuality:** Usually dioecious (male and female flowers separate), but some trees can be hermaphroditic.

Fruit

- **Shape:** Round to oval, about 2–7 cm in diameter.
- **Skin:** Thin to thick, pale yellow to brownish when ripe; leathery, often with milky latex.
- **Flesh:** Translucent, segmented (like Mangosteen), juicy, and sweet to slightly sour.
- **Seeds:** 1–3 per fruit, bitter if bitten.
- **Fruit Type:** Berry.





✓ *How to eat Lanzones*

1. **Eaten Fresh**
 - The most common way. Sweet, juicy, and refreshing.
2. **Candied or Preserved**
 - Flesh is cooked with sugar to make **candied Lanzones** or **jam/jelly**.
 - Sometimes bottled in syrup for longer storage.
3. **Juice & Beverages**
 - The fruit can be blended into **juice, smoothies, or wine** (fermented).
4. **Desserts**
 - Added to **fruit salads, ice cream, or gelatin desserts** for a tropical twist.
5. **Sauces & Chutneys**
 - The slightly sweet–sour flavor works well in **chutneys, sauces, or relishes**, often paired with fish or chicken.
6. **Traditional & Local Dishes** (in Southeast Asia)
 - In some areas, Lanzones flesh is used in **sour stews** or mixed with coconut milk in desserts

☺ *Lanzones Nutrition (Approximate Values)*

- **Calories:** 57–60 kcal
- **Carbohydrates:** 14 g
- **Sugars:** ~13 g
- **Dietary fiber:** 2 g
- **Protein:** 1.0 g
- **Fat:** 0.2 g

☺ *Health Benefits*

- **Rich in antioxidants** (mainly Vitamin C).
- **Low in fat and calories** → good for light snacking.
- **Moderate fiber** content supports digestion.
- **Carbohydrate-rich**, mostly natural sugars for quick energy.



🌱 *Root System of Lanzones*

- **Type:** Deep, fibrous root system.
- **Main Roots:** Strong taproot with many **lateral roots** spreading wide.
- **Feeding Roots:** Most fine feeder roots are concentrated in the **top 30–60 cm** of soil.



- **Soil Preference:** Grows best in **well-drained, loamy soils**; does not tolerate waterlogging.
- **Symbiosis:** Roots often develop **mycorrhizal associations** that improve nutrient uptake.

Growth Requirements

- **Climate:** Thrives in warm, humid, tropical lowlands.
- **Soil:** Fertile, well-drained, and slightly acidic to neutral soils.
- **Shade:** **Young trees prefer partial shade; mature trees can tolerate more sun.**

✓ *Summary Takeaway (Mindanao Context):*

Lanzones is a prized seasonal fruit in Mindanao, especially in Camiguin and Bukidnon, where volcanic soil and climate produce premium-quality harvests. Mature trees can yield significant seasonal income, with peak demand during Lanzones festivals. Successful production depends on proper spacing, irrigation during dry months, and protection from root diseases caused by waterlogging. With processing opportunities (candies, jams, wine), Lanzones offers strong potential for smallholder farmers as both a fresh market and value-added crop.

Major Lanzones Varieties in the Philippines

1. Camiguin Lanzones

Inspiration and Motivation ng Masa

- Grown mainly on **Camiguin Island, Mindanao**.
- Considered the **sweetest and finest variety** in the country.
- Thin skin, less latex, translucent juicy flesh.
- Premium price, celebrated during the **Camiguin Lanzones Festival**.

2. Jolo Lanzones

- Widely grown in **Sulu and Western Mindanao**.
- Smaller fruits, thicker skin with more latex.
- Taste: Sweet-sour, less preferred for fresh eating compared to Camiguin.
- Hardy and more tolerant to varying soil conditions.

3. Paete Lanzones

- Common in **Laguna and Quezon provinces (Luzon)**.
- Larger fruit clusters, thick rind, and sticky latex.



- Taste: Moderately sweet but not as fine as Camiguin.
- Often sold in Luzon markets.

4. Longkong Lanzones

- (Thai variety, now naturalized in the Philippines)
- Imported but cultivated in some areas of **Mindanao and Luzon**.
- Almost **seedless**, sweeter than native types.
- Less latex, thinner skin, easier to peel.
- Becoming popular for commercial planting.

Comparison of Lanzones Varieties (Philippines)

Variety	Fruit Size	Bearing Season (Philippines)	Tree Height (Unpruned vs. Pruned)	Growth Rate	Yield Potential
Camiguin	Medium (2–5 cm diameter)	Sept–Oct (peak during Camiguin Festival)	15–20 m unpruned; 8–12 m pruned	Slow-growing (7–10 yrs to full bearing)	High – premium quality, ~100–150 kg/tree at maturity
Jolo	Small (2–3 cm diameter)	Aug–Sept	12–18 m unpruned; 6–10 m pruned	Moderate growth	Moderate – hardy but less market-preferred
Paete	Medium-Large (3–6 cm diameter)	Aug–Oct	15–20 m unpruned; 8–12 m pruned	Slow-growing	Moderate-High – heavy clusters but more latex
Longkong	Medium (2–5 cm, seedless/near seedless)	Sept–Nov (slightly later than local types)	10–15 m unpruned; 6–8 m pruned	Faster than local types (5–7 yrs to bearing)	High – 150–200 kg/tree, sweet & marketable

Summary Takeaway for Bukidnon / Mindanao:

- **Camiguin**: Best quality, fetches the highest price, but slow to mature.
- **Jolo**: Hardy and adaptable, smaller fruits, lower demand.
- **Paete**: Good yield but thick skin and latex reduce eating quality.
- **Longkong**: Imported but gaining popularity due to near seedlessness, sweetness, and earlier bearing.

For Mindanao growers, Camiguin remains the premium niche variety, while Longkong is attractive for commercial-scale planting due to faster growth, higher yield, and strong market appeal.



Intercropping Tree Crops for Lanzones

Lanzones is a **shade-tolerant**, **moisture-loving**, and **slow-growing** tree. Unlike durian, it performs **better with partial shade** during much of its life. This makes some tree crops ideal companions — and others harmful.

✓ *Good Tree Crops to Intercrop With Lanzones*

Tree Crop	Why It Is Good for Lanzones	Notes / Tips
Coconuts (Tall or Dwarf)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide medium, filtered shade, ideal for lanzones.• Improve microclimate: cooler, humid, less evaporation.• Coconuts rarely compete heavily for sunlight.• Classic and proven combination in Mindanao.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Best spacing: 9–10 m coconuts with lanzones in between.• Ensure coconuts do not cast heavy shade in all directions — prune old fronds.
Banana	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent temporary shade while young.• Adds soil moisture and organic matter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep 3–4 m away to avoid direct root competition.• Good for first 3–4 years.
Cacao	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Likes partial shade similar to lanzones.• Roots are non-aggressive and improve soil life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Works well permanently if spaced properly.• Maintain pruning to avoid excessive shade as both mature.
Coffee (Robusta or Arabica in cooler zones)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thrives in similar microclimate.• Useful for ground cover and income.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Works best under filtered shade.• Maintain pruning.
Rambutan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compatible canopy height.• Similar soil and water needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep adequate spacing (8–10 m).• Avoid overcrowding.
Mangosteen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loves shade and humidity.• No aggressive roots.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good long-term companion.• Works best in well-drained but moist soils.
Durian	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can coexist if spacing is wide and managed.• Lanzones tolerates durian shade better than most crops.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep 10 m spacing minimum.• Lanzones should be placed on the east or southeast side of durian for morning light.



Bad Tree Crops to Intercrop With Lanzones

Tree Crop	Why It Is Bad	Risks
Mahogany / Gmelina / Falcata (Timber Trees)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create heavy shade and block sunlight.• Aggressive roots drain water and nutrients.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Slow growth or complete suppression of lanzones.• Poor fruiting.
Jackfruit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large canopy, fast-growing, strong shading.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduces light; increases fungal pressure on lanzones.
Large Mango Trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wide dense canopy.• Strong competitors for nutrients.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limits aeration and sunlight needed during fruiting season.
Rubber Trees (Hevea)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deep roots and heavy shade.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heavy water competition and stunted lanzones growth.
Albizia / Acacia / Kakawate (Gliricidia)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rapid canopy expansion.• Can overshadow the orchard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excessive shade → low fruit yield.
Fast-growing shade trees (ipil-ipil, madre de cacao when unmanaged)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quickly dominate the light space.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduces canopy development of lanzones.

Special Focus: Coconuts + Lanzones Intercropping

This is one of the **best and most traditional combinations** in the Philippines.

Why It Works

- Coconut canopy allows **filtered light** — perfect for lanzones, especially in early years.
- Lanzones loves **humid, partially shaded** microclimates.
- Both crops tolerate **moderate slopes** and **deep soils**.
- Coconut roots stay shallow and fibrous; lanzones roots go deeper — less competition.

Best Layout

- Tall coconut spacing: **9 × 9 m or 10 × 10 m**
- Plant lanzones at **center of the coconut square**
- Maintain coconut fronds to reduce heavy shade on the east side
- Provide irrigation during dry months

Result

- Coconut = continuous income
- Lanzones = high-value seasonal crop
- Strong long-term agroforestry system with stable microclimate

Market Demand & Acceptance

High Value Crop

- Lanzones is considered a **high-value commercial crop** in the Philippines. [Pinoy Bisnes Ideas+2QD friends+2](#)
- Because its fruits are relatively perishable, it's commonly sold fresh through local markets. [Buplant](#)
- There is already a *Philippine National Standard* for grading and quality of lanzones. [BAFS](#)
- The marketing flow often involves **contracts**: buyers may agree with farmers before harvest, estimating yield and locking in prices. [Buplant](#)



Good Quality from Mindanao

- According to a Philippine Star article, the eating quality of lanzones from Mindanao is favorable, even compared to international sources. [Philstar](#)
- Because of this, there's a strong **domestic demand**: for example, lanzones from Mindanao are sold in Metro Manila fruit stands. [Philstar](#)
- The “sweet business” perspective supports that lanzones is attractive as a specialty fruit. [Pinoy Bisnes Ideas](#)



Seasonality and Price Volatility

- The fruit is **highly perishable**, which complicates logistics, storage, and transport. [Buplant](#)
- Prices can fluctuate widely due to limited supply: in some cases, Mindanao longkong (lanzones) has sold in Metro Manila for very high retail prices when supply is tight. [Philstar](#)
- Pest problems (e.g., the mussle scale insect) are being reported in Mindanao that can reduce yields. [SunStar Publishing Inc.](#)

Growing Awareness & Applications

- Apart from fresh fruit, lanzones may have **culinary and medicinal use** (e.g., its rind and seed have tannins, and it has uses in food products) that could drive demand beyond just fresh-eating markets. [Philstar](#)
- There is interest in more value-added products: jam, syrup, etc., which could help in absorbing fruit during peak or surplus seasons. [Philstar+1](#)

Implications Specifically for Southern Bukidnon

Given the above, here's how I interpret market acceptance of lanzones in southern Bukidnon (and what it means for growers there):

Opportunities / Strengths

- **Good Domestic Market Potential:** Since Mindanao-grown lanzones is already being sold in high-demand markets (like Metro Manila), Bukidnon farmers could tap into these channels, especially through wholesaler contracts.
- **Premium Price Potential:** If Bukidnon lanzones can match or exceed quality (sweetness, lack of latex, size) similar to other Mindanao lanzones, it could fetch **premium prices** during seasonal scarcity.
- **Value-Added Products:** Using lanzones for processed products (jam, wine, dried) could provide more stable income, reduce post-harvest loss, and extend market reach.
- **Contract Farming:** Pre-harvest contracting seems to be a common and effective marketing strategy. This reduces risk for farmers since they can lock in a buyer and price ahead of time. [Buplant](#)



Challenges / Risks

- **Perishability:** The very short shelf life means logistics (transport, packaging, cooling) will be critical. Poor post-harvest handling in Bukidnon could lead to significant losses.
 - **Pest Pressure:** As in other areas of Mindanao, pest (e.g., scale insects) could reduce yields, which weakens supply reliability. [UPLB Library+1](#)
 - **Market Competition:** While there is demand, other regions also produce lanzones. Bukidnon producers must ensure consistent quality to compete.
 - **Seasonality:** Because lanzones production is seasonal, farmers need strategies for financing, labor, and working capital during non-harvest months.
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Overall Assessment: Market Acceptance Likely Positive

- **Acceptance is strong** for well-grown, good-quality lanzones from Mindanao—and Bukidnon is well-positioned to tap into that market.
- To succeed, **Bukidnon farmers** would need to focus on **quality control, post-harvest handling**, and possibly **value-addition**.
- If these are addressed, lanzones production in southern Bukidnon has **very good potential** to be profitable and well-received in both local and national markets.

Jessie's Sunshine Farm

Inspiration and Motivation ng Masa