CHESTNUT

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Castanea sativa*

Scientific classification:

Reign: Plantae
Division: Magnoliophyta
Class: Magnoliopsida
Order: Fagales
Family: Fagaceae

DESCRIZIONE:

Fruit tree, it is from 10 to 30 m tall. It grows up in many regions from 200m to 1300. It has economic importance because of the production of timber and for its fruits.

Leaves: deciduous, simple, alternated, lanceolated, acuminate on the apex with serrated edge and parallel veins. At the end of development they have an almost leathery texture. They are green and shiny on the top page, while they're light green on the lower. The petiole is short.

Bark: smooth, shiny, grey/brown. The bark on branches is white and is littered with transverse lenticels.

Flowers: unisexual, placed on the same tree. I male flowers are gather on small clusters, in turn, forming erect catkins. Female flowers are isolated or gather on groups. Every group is surrounded by a sheath of bracts, said dome. Every flower is white.

Fruits: chestnuts, dried fruits with brown leather pericarp, without hairs and shiny. The fruits are contained inside a spiny wrapping, gather on groups of 2 or 3.