



戶外通識教室：四季換衣裳的野漆樹和七姑婆

Nature's Classroom: Wax tree & Hairy-fruited abacus plant

野漆樹(木蠟樹)為漆樹科，本地原生種，落葉中等喬木，可高6米。腋生花序，綠黃色，細小，花期1-4月。奇數羽狀複葉，葉先端尖削，顏色隨季節而變，像一個貪靚的小姑娘，春天青綠，入秋轉黃橙，冬天變鮮艷紅葉，像定期為郊野添上新衣。其汁液有毒，易對人引起皮膚刺激、過敏及紅腫手痕。



唯大自然很奇妙，正如有毒蛇出沒處多有解毒藥草。郊野的野漆樹旁也常會生長一種叫漆姑婆或漆大姑(即毛果算盤子)的植物，用以煎水抹身可解毒解痕。試找找看附近有無「七姑婆」？
Hairy-fruited abacus plant (*Glochidion eriocarpum*) is a natural remedy to relieve the discomfort causing by wax tree poison!

Wax Tree (*Rhus succedanea*) Native, medium-sized deciduous tree. Wax Tree is very common in HK. Its compound pinnate leaves change colour seasonally, from green to rusty yellow, then maple red in winter, like a lady changing costumes regularly. Its juice can cause allergic reactions to human, making your skin red & itchy.

