

# Heliocarpus popayanensis

## White moho

*Heliocarpus popayanensis* Kunth  
Syn. *H. americana* var. *popayanensis*

Family: Tiliaceae

**Description:** Tall tree with young branches hairy. Leaves ovate to heart-shaped, 1 ft long by 7 inches wide, 3-lobed, 5–7 prominent veins, hairy, margins finely serrated, apex acutely pointed. Petioles 3 inches long. Flowers pale yellow in terminal clusters of up to 20 blossoms. Fruits are capsules covered with feathery bristles. Seeds ovoid, 0.1 inch long. Name *helios*, sun; *karpos*, fruit for fruit with radiating bristles<sup>(59, 70)</sup>; *popayanensis*, after Popayan, Colombia.

**Distribution:** Native range Mexico to Argentina. Introduced by Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association and used in reforestation projects before 1930. Planted and naturalized on Kaua'i; Tantalus, O'ahu; and Waiakea, Hawai'i<sup>(59, 70)</sup>.



**Environmental impact:** Grows rapidly and spreads readily in disturbed wetter mesic forests<sup>(59)</sup>.

**Management:** No work reported.