

Thespesia populnea

(Indian tulip tree, Pacific rosewood, Portia tree)

Although Thespesia populnea can be considered messy since it drops numerous leaves and dry seed capsules year round. However, it is easy to grow and care of, for it is tolerant to drought, salt water and heat. All it needs is to be grown in a full-partial sunny area.

It yellow and orange flowers bloom year round; they live for a day to turn into a grey brown capsule the day after. Thespesia populnea is native to the Old World, Australia, China, and India.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: porcher

Pronunciation: thess-PEE-zee-uh pop-ULL-nee-uh

Plant Type: Tree

Origin: Australia, China, India

Heat Zones: 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Hardiness Zones: 11, 12, 13

Uses: Screen, Hedge, Specimen, Container, Shade

Size/Shape

Growth Rate: Fast

Tree Shape: Spreading

Canopy Symmetry: Irregular

Canopy Density: Dense

Canopy Texture: Medium

Height at Maturity: 8 to 15 m

Spread at Maturity: 10 to 15 meters, Over 15 meters

Time to Ultimate Height: 10 to 20 Years

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Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Alternate

Leaf Venation: Pinnate

Leaf Persistence: Evergreen

Leaf Type: Simple

Leaf Blade: 5 - 10 cm

Leaf Shape: Cordate

Leaf Margins: Undulate

Leaf Textures: Fine, Medium, Coarse

Leaf Scent: No Fragrance

Color(growing season): Green, Yellow

Color(changing season): Green, Yellow

Flower

Flower Showiness: True

Flower Size Range: 3 - 7

Flower Type: Solitary

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: No Fragrance

Flower Color: Yellow, Orange

Seasons: Year Round

Trunk

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Generally resists breakage

Number of Trunks: Multi-Trunked

Trunk Esthetic Values: Showy

Fruit

Fruit Type: Capsule

Fruit Showiness: True

Fruit Size Range: 1.5 - 3

Fruit Colors: Brown, Grey

Seasons: Year Round

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Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Heat Tolerant: Yes

Drought Tolerant: Yes

Salt Tolerance: Good

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral

Water Requirements: Low

Light Requirements: Full, Part

Management

Toxity: No

Invasive Potential: No

Pruning Requirement: Little needed, to develop a strong structure

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: Yes

Life Span: 25-50 years

Edible Parts: None

Plant Propagations: Seed

MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Bark Image



Other Image