

Acacia arabica

(Gum-Arabic tree)

Acacia arabica is a slow growing, long lived tree usually growing 2.5-7 m tall, but occasionally reaching up to 20 m in height. It has a flattened or umbrella shaped crown and bright yellow, sweet-scented flower heads. Its wood was used by ancient Egyptians to make statues and furniture. The species can withstand extremely dry environments and can also endure floods.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: babul, arabe, palmier

Pronunciation: a-KAY-see-uh a-RAB-ih-kuh

Plant Type: Tree

Origin: India

Heat Zones: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

Hardiness Zones: 10, 11

Uses: Erosion control, Cut Flowers / Arrangements

Size/Shape

Growth Rate: Slow

Tree Shape: Spreading

Canopy Symmetry: Symmetrical

Canopy Density: Medium

Canopy Texture: Fine

Height at Maturity: 8 to 15 m

Spread at Maturity: 5 to 8 meters

Time to Ultimate Height: 10 to 20 Years

Notes

Synonym: *Acacia nilotica*, Tolerates a wide range of soil types, thriving in alluvial and heavy clay soils, can be planted onto degraded saline/alkaline soils. *Acacia nilotica* is used for industrial waste water and in riverine areas.

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Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Alternate
Leaf Venation: Nearly Invisible
Leaf Persistence: Deciduous
Leaf Type: Even Pinnately compound
Leaf Blade: Less than 5
Leaf Shape: Linear
Leaf Margins: Entire
Leaf Textures: Fine
Leaf Scent: No Fragrance
Color(growing season): Green
Color(changing season): Copper

Flower

Flower Showiness: True
Flower Size Range: 1.5 - 3
Flower Type: Capitulum
Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)
Flower Scent: Pleasant
Flower Color: Yellow
Seasons: Spring

Trunk

Trunk Has Crownshaft: False
Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Suspected to breakage
Number of Trunks: Single Trunk
Trunk Esthetic Values: Spines

Fruit

Fruit Type: Legume
Fruit Showiness: True
Fruit Size Range: 10 - 20
Fruit Colors: Green, Grey
Seasons: Spring

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Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: Yes

Heat Tolerant: Yes

Drought Tolerant: Yes

Salt Tolerance: Good

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Clay, Loam, Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral

Water Requirements: Moderate

Light Requirements: Full

Management

Toxity: Yes

Invasive Potential: Yes

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: Yes

Pruning Requirement: Needed, to develop a strong structure

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: Yes

Surface Rooting: No

Life Span: More than 50

Edible Parts:

Pests: Snail

Plant Propagations: Seed, Cutting

MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Other Image



Bark Image