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.

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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### 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 Fragance
- **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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### 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