**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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(Gum-Arabic tree)

## 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
### Acacia arabica
(Gum-Arabic tree)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Horticulture Management</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tolerance</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Frost Tolerant: Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heat Tolerant: Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drought Tolerant: Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salt Tolerance: Good</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Requirements</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Soil Requirements: Clay, Loam, Sand</td>
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<td>Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral</td>
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<td>Water Requirements: Moderate</td>
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<td>Light Requirements: Full</td>
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<td><strong>Management</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Toxity: Yes</td>
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<td>Invasive Potential: Yes</td>
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<td>Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: Yes</td>
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<td>Pruning Requirement: Needed, to develop a strong structure</td>
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<td>Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: Yes</td>
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<td>Surface Rooting: No</td>
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<td>Life Span: More than 50</td>
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<td><strong>Edible Parts:</strong></td>
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<td>Pests: Snail</td>
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<td><strong>Plant Propagations:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Seed, Cutting</td>
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</tbody>
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