

Parkinsonia aculeata

(Jerusalem Thorn)

Parkinsonia is a moderate growing tree, reaching a maximum height and width of 7 and 9 meters respectively. Its beautiful yellow flowers bloom in spring, adding beauty to the tree's vase shape and thin bark. Parkinsonia tolerates pollution and can be used in urban settings in streetscapes or in parking spaces, especially in areas in need of plants that offer shade and tolerate both heat and drought.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

<b>French Name:</b> Épine de Jérusalem
<b>Pronunciation:</b> PAR-kin-son-EE-a ah-kew-lee-AY-tuh
<b>Plant Type:</b> Tree
<b>Origin:</b> Mexico
<b>Heat Zones:</b> 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16
<b>Hardiness Zones:</b> 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
<b>Uses:</b> Specimen, Shade, Erosion control, Street, Pollution Tolerant / Urban
<b>Size/Shape</b>
<b>Growth Rate:</b> Moderate
<b>Tree Shape:</b> Vase
<b>Canopy Symmetry:</b> Irregular
<b>Canopy Density:</b> Open
<b>Canopy Texture:</b> Fine
<b>Height at Maturity:</b> 5 to 8 m
<b>Spread at Maturity:</b> 5 to 8 meters
<b>Time to Ultimate Height:</b> 10 to 20 Years

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(Jerusalem Thorn)



Flower Image

## Botanical Description

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### Foliage

**Leaf Arrangement:** Alternate  
**Leaf Venation:** Nearly Invisible  
**Leaf Persistence:** Deciduous  
**Leaf Type:** Odd Pinnately compound  
**Leaf Blade:** Less than 5  
**Leaf Shape:** Oblanceolate  
**Leaf Margins:** Entire  
**Leaf Textures:** Fine  
**Leaf Scent:**  
**Color(growing season):** Green  
**Color(changing season):** Green

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### Flower

**Flower Showiness:** True  
**Flower Size Range:** 7 - 10  
**Flower Type:** Solitary  
**Flower Sexuality:** Monoecious (Bisexual)  
**Flower Scent:** Pleasant  
**Flower Color:** Yellow  
**Seasons:** Spring, Summer

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### Trunk

**Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage:** Suspected to breakage  
**Number of Trunks:** Multi-Trunked, Can be trained to one trunk  
**Trunk Esthetic Values:** Showy, Spines

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### Fruit

**Fruit Type:** Legume  
**Fruit Showiness:** True  
**Fruit Size Range:** 3 - 7  
**Fruit Colors:** Brown  
**Seasons:** Spring, Summer

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Leaf Image

© Photo by Monika Fabian

### Horticulture Management

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#### Tolerance

**Frost Tolerant:** No

**Heat Tolerant:** Yes

**Drought Tolerant:** Yes

**Salt Tolerance:** Good

#### Requirements

**Soil Requirements:** Clay, Loam, Sand

**Soil Ph Requirements:** Acidic, Alkaline

**Water Requirements:** Moderate

**Light Requirements:** Full

#### Management

**Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases:** No

**Pruning Requirement:** Needed, to develop a strong structure

**Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter:** No

**Surface Rooting:** No

**Life Span:** Less than 25

**Edible Parts:**

**Pests:** Scales

**Plant Propagations:** Seed

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## MORE IMAGES



Bark Image



Other Image