

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

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

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Flower Image

Botanical Description

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

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

Trunk

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Suspected to breakage

Number of Trunks: Multi-Trunked, Can be trained to one trunk

Trunk Esthetic Values: Showy, Spines

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

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

MORE IMAGES



Bark Image



Other Image