

Copperpod tree

Peltophorum pterocarpum



Scientific classification

Kingdom: Plantae

(unranked): Angiosperms

(unranked): Eudicots

(unranked): Rosids

Order: Fabales

Family: Fabaceae

Genus: Peltophorum

Species: P.
 pterocarpum

Binomial name

Peltoporum pterocarpum (Copperpod, Golden Flamboyant, Yellow Flamboyant, Yellow Flame Tree,

Description

It is a deciduous tree growing to 15–25 m (rarely up to 50 m) tall, with a trunk diameter of up to 1 m belonging to Family Leguminosae and sub-family Caesalpinieaceae. The leaves are bipinnate, 30-60 cm long, with 16-20 pinnae, each pinna with 20-40 oval leaflets 8-25 mm long and 4-10 mm broad.

The flowers are yellow, 2.5-4 cm diameter, produced in large compound racemes up to 20 cm long.

The fruit is a pod 5-10 cm long and 2.5 cm broad, red at first, ripening black, and containing one to four seeds. Trees begin to flower after about four years.^{[1][2]}



Flower, buds, leaves

Uses

The tree is widely grown in tropical regions as an ornamental tree, particularly in India, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Florida and Hawaii in the United States. The trees have been planted alternately in India as a common scheme for avenue trees in India alternately with *Delonix regia* (Gulmohur) to give a striking yellow and red effect in summer, as has been done on Hughes road in Mumbai.^[4]

The wood has a wide variety of uses, including cabinet-making^[5] and the foliage is used as a fodder crop.^[1] The brownish colour called *sogan* typical of batik cloth from inland Java is produced from *P. pterocarpum*, which is known there as *soga*.