

***Peltophorum ferrugineum* (Copper Pod)**

Peltophorum ferrugineum, also known as the rusty shield bearer or yellow poinciana, is a species of tree in the family Fabaceae.

CLASSIFICATION:

Kingdom: Plantae

Clade: Angiosperms

Clade: Eudicots

Clade: Rosids

Order: Fabales

Family: Fabaceae

Subfamily: Caesalpinioideae

Genus: *Peltophorum*

Species: *ferrugineum*



PHYSICAL CHARACTERS

Medium-sized deciduous tree up to 15 meters tall.

Trunk: Straight with smooth gray bark.

Leaves: Large pinnate with 2-4 pairs of leaflets.

Flowers: Bright yellow in clusters with a reddish -brown calyx.

Fruits: Flat elliptical pods up to 10 cm long containing several seeds.

DISTRIBUTION AND USES

It is native to tropical Africa, the Indian subcontinent, and South East Asia and widely cultivated in other regions including the Caribbean and Pacific Islands. It is an ornamental tree valued for its showy flowers and shade. The wood used for furniture, construction, and firewood. Medicinal uses its bark, leaves, and seeds have been used in traditional medicine.

INTERESTING FACTS

Peltophorum ferrugineum is a popular ornamental tree in tropical and subtropical regions. The tree has a unique, rust-colored shield-shaped structure on its trunk, giving it its common name. It's a valuable resource for bees and other pollinators, providing nectar-rich flowers. The wood is resistant to termite attacks and is used for making durable furniture.