

***Pterocarpus marsupium* (Indian Kino Tree)**

Classification

Kingdom: Plantae

Phylum: Angiosperma

Class: Dicotyledons

Order: Fabales

Family: Fabaceae

Genus: Pterocarpus

Species: marsupium



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Trunk: Hard, dense, spreading canopy with a broad crown and can grow up to 100 feet.

Leaves: Large, deciduous leaves with 5-7 leaflets, elliptical, pointed.

Flowers: Small, yellowish-orange flowers in clusters and 0.2-0.24 inches long.

Fruits: Brown, flat, and woody, and, 2.4 - 3.2 inches long and 0.8 - 1.2 inches wide.

DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT

It is widely distributed across the Indian subcontinent, including India, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bhutan. The tree typically grows in deciduous forests, tropical dry forests.

CULTIVATION AND USES

The wood is highly valued for furniture-making, construction and also used as firewood and charcoal. The wood and bark can be used to create a red-brown dye.

INTERESTING FACTS

The name "Pterocarpus" comes from the Greek words "ptero" meaning wing and "carpus" meaning fruit, referring to the winged shape of the fruit pods.