

Simarouba glauca (Lakshmitharu)

Classification

Kingdom: Plantae
Clade: Tracheophytes
Clade: Angiosperm
Clade: Eudicots
Clade: Rosids
Order: Sapindalus
Family: Simaroubaceae
Genus: Simarouba
Species: glauca



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Simarouba glauca, also known as Paradise Tree or Simarouba.

Trunk: Straight, cylindrical and smooth trunk with grayish-brown and smooth bark which can grow up to 10-20 meter tall and have horizontal or ascending branches.

Leaves: Alternate, pinnate with pointed tip leaves.

Flower: Small, greenish-yellow coloured flowers are present.

Fruit: The fruits contain a single seed.

DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT

Native to the tropical regions of central and South America. Tropical regions are more suitable for these trees. They need well drained soil. The climate should be warm and humid.

CULTIVATION AND USES

It can be propagated through seeds, cuttings or grafting. Wood is used in furniture-making. Bark, leaves and seeds have medicinal properties. The fruit pulp is edible.

INTERESTING FACTS

It has insecticidal properties and is drought tolerance. It is ecologically important.