

Thespesia populnea

Kingdom: Plantae
Clade: Tracheophytes
Order: Malvales
Family: Malvaceae
Genus: Thespesia
Species: *T. populnea*
Scientific Name: *Thespesia populnea*



Thespesia populnea, commonly known as the Portia tree or Indian tulip tree, is referred to by various names in different Indian languages:

Hindi: Portia

Tamil: Poovarasu

Telugu: Poiri Chettu

Kannada: Murudu

Marathi: Portia

Malayalam: Poovarasu

Bengali: Poovarasu

Gujarati: Portia

Punjabi: Portia

Odia: Poovarasu

Uses:

1. Medicinal Uses:

The bark, leaves, and flowers are used in traditional medicine.

Known for treating skin diseases, wounds, inflammation, and respiratory issues.

The bark is used to treat dysentery and diabetes, and the leaves are used as poultices for swelling.

2. Environmental Uses:

Often planted for coastal protection and erosion control due to its tolerance to saline conditions. Provides shade and acts as a windbreak.

3. Other Uses:

Wood is durable and used for making furniture, boats, and carvings.

The leaves and flowers are sometimes used in religious and cultural ceremonies.



General Features:

Leaves: Heart shaped, glossy, and dark green with a paler underside, about 1020 cm long.

Bark: Grey to brown, rough and fissured.

Fruits: Capsule like, globose, and about 46 cm in diameter, turning from green to brown when mature.

Flowers: Large, yellow with a maroon centre, resembling hibiscus flowers, and about 46 cm in diameter.

Height: Can grow up to 610 meters (about 2033 feet) tall.

Thespesia populnea, commonly known as Indian Tulip Tree, is a versatile and resilient tree that offers numerous benefits. Its medicinal properties and practical uses in traditional medicine and construction make it valuable in many cultures. Its ability to thrive in coastal environments also highlights its importance in environmental conservation and landscape management.

