

Cassia fistula

Role In Nature

Golden shower tree's bright yellow flowers attract pollinators like bees and butterflies, aiding plant pollination. By fixing nitrogen, it improves soil fertility and benefits nearby vegetation. Its extensive roots stabilize soil, preventing erosion in tropical and subtropical regions. The tree produces long, cylindrical pods up to 60 cm (24 in) in length, containing numerous seeds.

Cultural Significance

In India, the Golden Shower tree is linked to Vishnu, planted near temples, and used in rituals. Blooming at the dry season's end, it symbolizes renewal and hope. It represents prosperity and is key to Thailand's Songkran and Kerala's Vishu festivals.

Medicinal Benefits

- The tree's fruit pulp is a natural laxative, traditionally used to treat constipation.
- Its extracts have antibacterial properties, aiding in wound healing and infection treatment.
- The tree possesses anti-inflammatory effects, beneficial for arthritis and other inflammatory conditions.
- Compounds in the tree exhibit antioxidant properties, helping combat oxidative stress.

Did You Know?

Golden shower tree is the national tree of Thailand.