

Siamese cassia

Role In Nature

Sennasiamea enhances soil fertility through nitrogen fixation, supports quick reforestation and erosion control with its rapid growth, and provides shade to moderate temperatures and protect understory plants. Its allelopathic properties influence plant communities by inhibiting competing vegetation.

Cultural Significance

Valued for its edible young leaves and flowers, it features in Thai cuisine, especially “Kaeng Khilek.” Often planted in temples and public spaces for shade and ornamentation, it also has medicinal uses for laxative and antimicrobial properties. Its rapid growth and hardwood make it useful for reforestation and construction.

Medicinal Benefits

- **Laxative Properties:** Leaves, flowers, and seeds are traditionally used to treat constipation.
- **Anti-inflammatory & Antimicrobial Effects:** Helps in treating infections and reducing inflammation.
- **Skin & Malaria Treatment:** Extracts are used in traditional medicine for skin diseases and malaria.
- **Pharmaceutical Potential:** Compounds are being researched for modern medicinal applications.

Did You Know?

Senna siamea is allelopathic, releasing chemicals that inhibit nearby plant growth, reducing competition but impacting biodiversity. Its rapid growth makes it popular for reforestation, shade in plantations, and urban areas.