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(Dada)**

Founder, Prakash Shikshan
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Prakash Shikshan Mandal's

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DIST-SANGLI (MAHARASHTRA) INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF DRAVYAGUNA



RAIN TREE

Marathi:

Botanical name.

Synonyms:

Family:

Common name.

Description-

Gulabi Shirish

Albizia saman

Samanea saman, Acacia propinqua, Mimosa saman

Leguminosae

Rain Tree, Coco tamarind, Acacia preta, French tamarind, Saman, Monkey pod

It is a tree of rapid growth, brought originally from Central America to Sri Lanka and forwarded from there because it was considered to be a tree of great value for railway fuel. It often reaches a height of 27 m. and the strong, spreading branches may be nearly as long. The bark is dark grey, often bearing horizontal weals and the trunk frequently branches quite low down. From March to May and again towards the end of the year the green canopy is dotted all over with pink and white. During the rest of the year, too, there are usually quite a few flowers to be seen. The flowers appear like round, silken tufts, but actually each flower stalk bears one central and a surrounding circlet of florets, up to twenty in number. Each has a tube-shaped calyx and a tiny, yellow-lobed, crimson trumpet; bunches of long stamens, half pink and half white, protrude from each. The long, heavy leaves are twice pinnate and each pinna, of which there are four to eight pairs, bears from three to seven pairs of leaflets. In India it is believed that the name was given because of a curious habit possessed by the tree of intermittently spraying the ground beneath with moisture. Later it was discovered that this was caused by multitudinous minute insects. The fruit is a fleshy pod, sweet to the taste and much relished by squirrels, horses and cattle.

Attributes :

Rasa-

Veerya-

Vipak-

Guna-

Medicinal uses.

There are numerous folk remedies prepared from various parts of rain tree. The boiled bark is applied as a poultice to cure constipation. In the Philippines, a decoction of the inner bark and fresh leaves is used for diarrhea. In Venezuela, the roots are made into a hot bath for stomach cancer. In the West Indies, the seeds are chewed for sore throat.