

Flowering Trees



Thespesia populnea (L.) Soland ex Correa (English: Portia tree; Hindi: Paraspipal) of Malvaceae is an evergreen tree that grows mainly along the coastal regions throughout India. Often planted as avenue tree, it is fairly large, quick-growing with greyish-brown fissured bark. Leaves are simple, alternate, long-petioled and heart-shaped with 5-7 prominent nerves and apex drawn out. Flowers are yellow with purple base, slowly changing to purple on withering. Fruits are globose capsules, which turn brown on drying.

The plant parts are an astringent, anti-inflammatory, antidiarrhoeal and anti-bacterial and useful in dermatopathy.