

Flowering Trees



Alstonia scholaris (L.) R.Br. (English: Devil's tree) of Apocynaceae is a large evergreen tree with greyish-brown bark and bitter milky latex. Leaves are simple, bright green on the upper side and greyish-white beneath. They occur clustered (4-7) around each node. Flowers are small, greenish-white, sweet scented and occur in dense bunches. Stamens with short filaments are inserted near the throat of the corolla tube. A pair of fruits develop from each flower, which are long (20-50cm), slender and pendulous. Seeds are papery and hairy at both ends.

The sap is poisonous and the tree is feared by inhabitants of some regions. Wood is used for black board- and cabinet making.

