

Adenanthera pavonina L.



Habit: Tree

Description: A large deciduous tree, bark pale pinkish grey. Leaves bipinnate, up to 24 cm long, rachis c. 10-40 cm long, petiole c. 5-10 cm long, pinnae opposite, 2-6 pairs, c. 7-12 cm long, leaflets 7-15 pairs, sessile, alternate, obovate, 1.5-4.0 cm long, 5-25 mm broad, margins slightly curved backwards, base unequal. Inflorescence axillary and terminal raceme, c. 7.5-15 cm long. Flower pedicellate, pedicel 3.5-4.0 cm long. Calyx 5, gamosepalous, 5 toothed, c. 1 mm long. Corolla pale yellow, c. 2.5-3 mm long, petals united at the base. Stamens 10, free, hardly exerted, anthers with a gland at the tip. Fruit a pod, curved, becomes coiled after dehiscence, 10-22.5 cm long, c. 7-10 mm broad. Seeds many, bright red in colour, like beads, c. 7-8 mm wide.

Taxonomy:

Kingdom	Plantae
Division	Tracheophytes
Class	Eudicots
Order	Fabales
Family	Fabaceae
Genus	<i>Adenanthera</i>
Species	<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i> L.

Uses: Used in traditional herbal medicine for a variety of diseases including diabetes, lipid disorders, diarrhea, hemorrhage, and as an anti-inflammatory agent.

Reference: Indian Biodiversity Portal, NCBI