Tree bean/

Parkia speciosa

Code: TREE-00001 **Local / Vernacular name:** Yongchak

Description

A deciduous tree, featuring wide-spreading crowns, fern-like feathery bipinnate leaves and unique club-shaped or tannis-ball-like hanging flower heads that produce edible flat pods and nutrient-rich seeds.

Botanical Details

Habits: Large deciduous tree, 7-20 m tall (sometimes up to 30 m).

Leaves: Bipinnate with numerous small leaflets.

Inflrorescence: Dense, spherical or club shaped head borne on long peduncle.

Pollination: Primarily by bats and nocturnal insects.

Fruits: Long, woody, twisted pods (20-45cm) containing sweet yellow pulp and 20-30 seeds.

Seeds: Flattened, protein-rich, used for food and fermentation.

Uses & Importance

Ecological:

Nitrogen fixation: Improves soil fertility, supports agroforestry systems.

Agroforestry role: Enchances biodiversity, stabilizes ecosystem and support small holder farmers.

Medicinal:

Effective against bacteria causing diarrhea and infections.

Helps regulate blood pressure, lowers cholesterol and triglycerides.

Rich in saponins, tannins, flavonoids, alkaloids and glycosides which contribute to therapeutics effects.

Cultural:

Used as a delicacy.

The mature seeds are remove to make pickle.

Provides income when being sold in the market.

Location

GPS: 12.97160000, 77.59460000

Directions: https://www.google.com/maps/dir/?api=1&travelmode=walking&destination=12.9716%2C77.5946