

SPECIES: *SENNA SPECTABILIS*

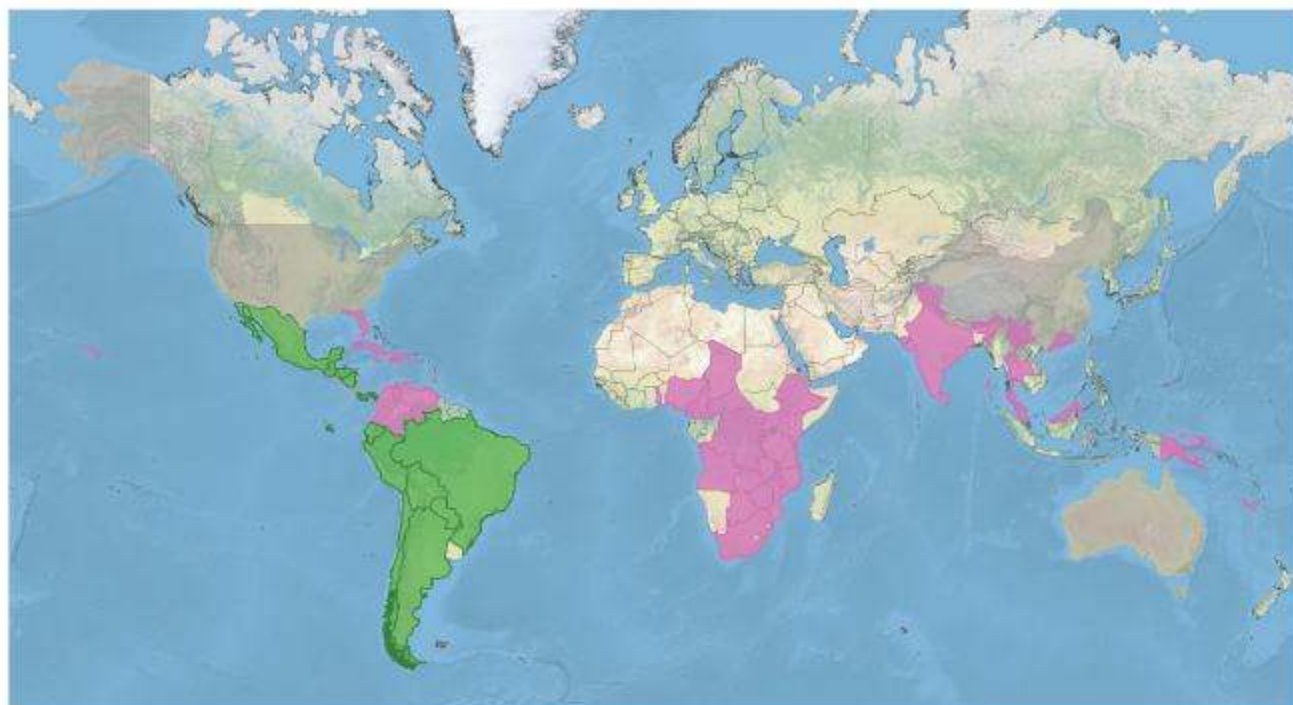
COMMON NAME: ARCHIBALD'S CASSIA /
AMERICAN CASSIA / POPCORN TREE

FAMILY: FABACEAE

Plant Description

It is a small woody evergreen tree that can grow to a height of 10-15 m. It has been recorded at elevations up to 900 masl in the Western Ghats (and 900-1900 masl in West Bengal). The leaves are compound with leaflets that are narrowly ovate with pointy ends. The flowers are yellow and produced in large, showy branched clusters. It forms fruit pods that are long and cylindrical with brown seeds. The tree is extremely fast growing with profuse seed set and high regeneration capacity; it also resprouts when cut. Seeds are dispersed by several wild herbivores, including elephants.





CABI, 2022. *Senna spectabilis*. In: Invasive Species Compendium. Wallingford, UK: CAB International. <https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/11464> #toDistributionMaps [accessed: 25/01/2022]

■ Introduced
■ Native
■ Origin not recorded

***Senna spectabilis* FABACEAE**

Origin: South and Central America

Introduction: The plant was introduced to India as an ornamental plant.

Impacts: It suppresses native species in the wild. It can also suppress crop yield by out-competing crops for water uptake.

Management: Removal by uprooting needs to be done frequently. It is also recommended that the trees should be pruned to lower their flowering and fruiting rates. It needs to be controlled in agroforestry systems too, where it is used as a shade plant and as support for growing pepper.



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