

Alstonia scholaris

Botanical Name: *Alstonia scholaris*

Common Name: Indian devil tree

Morphological Characteristics:

The *Alstonia scholaris* is a glabrous tree and grows up to 40 m (130 ft) tall. Its mature bark is grayish and its young branches are copiously marked with lenticels. The upper side of the leaves is glossy, while the underside is greyish.^[2] Leaves occur in whorls of three to ten; petioles are 1–3 cm (0.39–1.18 in); the leathery leaves are narrowly obovate to very narrowly spatulate, base cuneate, apex usually rounded; lateral veins occur in 25 to 50 pairs, at 80-90° to midvein. Cymes are dense and pubescent; peduncle is 4–7 cm (1.6–2.8 in) long. Pedicels are usually as long as or shorter than calyx. The corolla is white and tube-like, 6–10 mm (0.24–0.39 in); lobes are broadly ovate or broadly obovate, 2–4.5 mm (0.079–0.177 in), overlapping to the left.



Growing season and Type:

- 1) Tree is an elegant evergreen tree, found in most parts of India. The species name *scholaris* refers to the fact that the timber of this tree has traditionally been used to make wooden slates for school children.
- 2) Flowers bloom in the month October. The flowers are very fragrant similar to the flower of *Cestrum nocturnum*.
- 3) In October small, green yet fragrant flowers appear. All parts of the tree can be considered poisonous. It is a tall elegant tree with greyish rough bark.
- 4) The tree is really elegant whether it is flowering or not. The slightly rounded, leathery, dark green leaves form whorls of 4-7. And a very regular branching gives the tree a beautiful shape.



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1) Flower of *Alstonia scholaris*



2

2) Leaf of *Alstonia scholaris*



3

3) *Alstonia scholaris* tree

Source: <http://www.tropicalfloridagardens.com/tag/alstonia-scholaris/>