

## *Pterocarpus indicus*

**Botanical name:** *Pterocarpus indicus*

**Common name:** Narra, Burmese Rosewood, Red Sandalwood



### **Morphological Characters:**

*Pterocarpus indicus* is a large deciduous tree which grows to 30 m high or more. The compound leaves are about 12–22 cm long and made up of 5–13 smaller leaflets. The extremely fragrant flowers grow in inflorescences known as panicles and are bright yellow or yellow-orange in color. They are shaped like small pea flowers with petals known as “banner and keel”. The calyx is about 5–6 mm long and hairy, the corolla is about 16–18 mm long. The disc-like fruits are shaped like flying saucers, and are brown and somewhat hairy, about 4–6.6 cm in diameter. The single seed in the middle is about 1 1/2–3 cm in diameter, and about 6–9 mm thick.

### **Growing season and Type:**

1. Open-grown trees usually begin flowering and fruiting between 5 and 10 years of age.
2. The season of flowering varies considerably throughout the native range and is reported to occur from July through September.
3. The **fruit** is a semiorbicular **pod** 2–3 cm diameter, surrounded by a flat 4–6 cm diameter membranaceous wing (wing-like structure) which aids dispersal by the wind.
4. It contains one or two **seeds**, and does not split open at maturity; it ripens within 4–6 years, and becomes purple when dry.



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1) Flower of *Pterocarpus indicus*

2) Leaves of *Pterocarpus indicus*

3) *Pterocarpus indicus* tree

Sources: <http://luirig.altervista.org/cpm/albums/bot-hawaii56/07799-Pterocarpus-indicus.jpg>

<http://www.flickrriver.com/photos/adaduitokla/6258182362/>

<http://luirig.altervista.org/pics/index5.php?recn=42357&page=1>