

## *Peltophorum pterocarpum*

**Botanical name:** *Peltophorum pterocarpum*

**Common name:** Yellow Flame Tree, Yellow Poinciana

### **Morphological characters:**

*Peltophorum pterocarpum* is a deciduous tree usually reaching a height of 15 (-24) m, although it may attain 50 m and a diameter of 50 (-100) cm. Bark smooth, grey; crown dense, spreading. Leaves large, 30-60 cm long, with 8-10 pairs of pinnae each bearing 10- 20 pairs of oblong leaflets 0.8-2.5 cm long with oblique bases. Flowers orange-yellow, each about 2.5 cm in diameter, fragrant, particularly at night; inflorescence brown-tomentose, panicles terminal with rust-coloured buds. Fruits 1-4 seeded pods, flat, thin, winged, 5-10 cm long, dark red when ripe, then turning black. *P. pterocarpum* has a deep root system. The specific epithet 'pterocarpum' alludes to its winged seed.



### **Growing season and type:**

1. Trees begin to flower after about four years.
2. Flowering occurs from March-May, although sporadic flowering may occur throughout the year (particularly in young trees), and a second flush of flowers may occur in September-November.



1



2



3

1. Flower of *Peltophorum pterocarpum*
2. Leaves of *Peltophorum pterocarpum*
3. *Peltophorum pterocarpum* tree