



BOTANICAL NAME-
Casuarina equisetifolia
L.

**ENGLISH NAME-She-oak,
Horsetail she-oak**

HINDI NAME-Junglisaru

FAMILY - Casuarinaceae

DESCRIPTION :

- ❖ Casuarina is an evergreen tree growing to 6–35 m (20–115 ft) tall
- ❖ The foliage consists of slender, much-branched green to grey-green twigs 0.5–1 mm in diameter, bearing minute scale-leaves in whorls of 6–8
- ❖ The flowers are produced in small catkin-like inflorescences; the male flowers in simple spikes 0.7–4 cm long, the female flowers on short peduncles. Unlike most other species of Casuarina (which are dioecious) it is monoecious, with male and female flowers produced on the same tree.
- ❖ The fruit is an oval woody structure 10–24 mm long and 9–13 mm in diameter, superficially resembling a conifer cone made up of numerous carpels each containing a single seed with a small wing 6–8 mm long.

USES :

- ❖ Casuarina is widely used as a bonsai subject, particularly in South-east Asia and parts of the Caribbean. Indonesian specimens and those cultivated in Taiwan are regarded among the best in the bonsai world.
- ❖ The wood of this tree is used for shingles, fencing, and is said to make excellent hot-burning firewood. Among the islands of Hawaii, Casuarina are also grown for erosion prevention, and in general as wind breaking elements.
- ❖ The Casuarina leaves are usually used for ornamental purposes in the urban region.