



BOTANICAL NAME-
Thespesia populnea

ENGLISH NAME – Portia tree, Pacific rosewood

HINDI NAME- Paras pipal

FAMILY- Malvaceae

DESCRIPTION :

- ❖ Bark greyish, twigs densely covered with brown to silvery scales.
- ❖ Leaves alternate, simple; petiole 5-8 cm long; stipule lanceolate to subulate, blade orbicular, palmately compound leaves
- ❖ Flowers axillary sometimes articulate with 2 scale like bracts near the base. Petals 5, corolla pale yellow with dark purple centre.
- ❖ Fruit a globose capsule.

Uses :

- ❖ It is popular in Hawaii for wood working because of the range of colour expressed.
- ❖ The tree is regarded as sacred, and are commonly worshipped.
- ❖ Portia wood is used to make hourglass drums.
- ❖ Its bark is use to treat mouth infections among infants, and its wood is used to make house part and artwork.
- ❖ *T. populnea* is considered an important species in habitat restoration.