

Badminton Ball Tree

Common name: Badminton Ball Tree, African Locust Tree, Gong-stick Tree

Botanical name: *Parkia biglandulosa*

Family: Mimosaceae; **Name in Tamil:** ?



Field identification: Large deciduous tree with many branches, 7-20 m high. Bark grey brown not very rough. Leaves compound, feathery, bipinnate, mimosa-like, over one foot long, 20-40 pairs pinnae, each with 60-100 pair of leaflets, 2 glands at base of leaf. Flowers inflorescence 30-40 cm, on long stalks, fluffy ball like heads, pink turning white then brown. Fruit long, flat pod.

Location on campus: Scudder crescent

References: (i) Krishen P. (2006) Trees of Delhi: A field guide. Dorling Kindersley, New Delhi. p298.

(ii) Flowers of India. Available at <http://www.flowersofindia.net>