

**Madras Thorn**

**Common name:** Madras Thorn, Manila Tamarind

**Botanical name:** *Pithecelobium dulce*

**Family:** Fabaceae

**Name in Tamil:** *Kodukkappuli, Kodikkai*



**Field identification:** Tall tree, evergreen, up to 10- 15 m. Bark grey turning rough and fissured with age. Leaves are compound, bipinnate with each pinna a single pair of ovate-oblong leaflets 2- 4 cm, spines from leaf bases. Flowers greenish-white, fragrant, sessile 12 cm in length, grow out of leaf-twig junctions. Twisted pods, green, which turns pink when ripe. Brown dried pods may remain on tree.

**Location on campus:** Scattered across campus. E.g. New Exam Hall Garden

**References:** (i) Menon, S., & Bagla, P. Trees of India. New Delhi: Timeless Books. P 82-83. (ii) Krishen, P. (2006) Trees of Delhi: A field guide. Dorling Kindersley, New Delhi. p282-3