

Rain Tree

Common name: Rain Tree

Botanical name: *Albizia saman*; **Family:** Fabaceae; **Name in Tamil:** *Thoongumunji*



Field Identification: Wide canopy with large symmetrical crown, 25 m height and 40 m coverage. Leaves fold during rainy weather and in the evenings. The origin of its name is the moisture that collects on the ground under the tree, largely the honeydew-like discharge of cicadas feeding on the leaves. The flowers appear like round, silken tufts, bunches of long stamens, half pink and half white. The long, heavy leaves are twice pinnate and each pinna, 4-8 pairs, bears 3-7 pairs of leaflets with terminal leaflet being large.

Location on campus: Scattered. E.g. College Library, CHTC, Stem Cell Centre

References:

1. Randhawa M.S (1983) Flowering trees. New Delhi, National Book Trust. p137-139.
2. Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Albizia_saman
3. Flowers of India. <http://www.flowersofindia.net>