

GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: Adenanthera pavonina



System: Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Magnoliopsida	Fabales	Fabaceae

Common name

peacock tree (English), kulalis (English, Guam), pitipitio (English, French Polynesia), vaivainivavalangi (English, Fiji), metekam (English, Kosrae), kulales (English, Guam), kolales (English, Guam), red sandalwood tree (English), telentundalel (English, Palau), la'aulopa (English, American Samoa), lopa (English, American Samoa), carolina (Portuguese, Brazil), olho-de-pavão (Portuguese, Brazil), segavé (Portuguese, Brazil), falso-sândalo (Portuguese, Brazil), peacock flower-fence (English), coral bean tree (English), red bead tree (English), false wili wili (English), bead tree (English), mwetkwem (English, Kosrae), bois de condori (French), kaikes (English, Pohnpei), paina (English, French Polynesia), culalis (English, Guam), vaivai (English, Fiji), lerendamu (English, Fiji), metkem (English, Kosrae), metkam (English, Kosrae), lera (English, Fiji), pomea (English, Fiji), colales (English, Guam), telengtúngd (English, Palau)

Synonym Adenanthera polita, Miq

Adenanthera gersenii, Scheffer

Similar species

Summary

A medium-sized tree up to 15m high, Adenanthera pavonina is native to India and Malaysia. It has been planted extensively throughout the tropics as an ornamental and has become naturalised in many countries. It invades intact, undisturbed hardwood forests as well as disturbed sites and can quickly form large colonies.



view this species on IUCN Red List

Adenanthera pavonina is reported to be very invasive in American Samoa and widespread on Kosrae.

Uses

Cultivated as an ornamental; Adenanthera pavonina is used for food, medecine, furniture, and fuelwood. The bright-red seeds are used for ornaments and sometimes for food. In the Caribbean, the bright red seeds produced by this tree are known as \"jumbie\" beads. They are also called \"Circassian\" seeds. Also, a red dye obtained from the wood is used by Brahmins to mark religious symbols on their forehead.

Habitat Description

Adenanthera pavonina prefers neutral to slightly acidic soils but will grow on a variety of soils in moist and seasonally moist tropical climates. It is common throughout the lowland tropics up to 300-400 m. Optimal plant growth occurs in areas with precipitation ranging between 3000-5000mm.

Reproduction

Adenanthera pavonina reproduces by seed, trees produce large quantities of seed.



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General Impacts

Adenanthera pavonina invades intact, undisturbed hardwood forests as well as disturbed sites and can quickly form large colonies.

Management Info

Preventative measures: A Risk Assessment of \rAdenanthera pavonina for Hawai'i and other Pacific islands was prepared by Dr. Curtis Daehler (UH Botany) with funding from the Kaulunani Urban Forestry Program and US Forest Service. The alien plant screening system is derived from Pheloung et al. (1999) with minor modifications for use in Pacific islands (Daehler et al. 2004). The result is a score of 7 and a recommendation of: \"Likely to cause significant ecological or economic harm in Hawai'i and on other Pacific Islands as \rdetermined by a high WRA score, which is based on published sources describing species biology and behaviour in Hawai'i and/or \rther parts of the world.\"

Pathway

Principal source: Pacific Islands Ecosystems at Risk, (PIER).

Compiler: IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG)

Review:

Pubblication date: 2006-03-23

ALIEN RANGE

[3] AMERICAN SAMOA	[1] ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
FET ALICTO ALIA	FET DALLANAC

[1] AUSTRALIA[1] BAHAMAS[1] BARBADOS[1] BERMUDA[1] BRAZIL[1] CAMEROON

[2] CAYMAN ISLANDS
[1] CHAD
[1] COMOROS
[1] CONGO, THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE

[6] COOK ISLANDS [1] DOMINICA

[1] DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
[1] FRENCH GUIANA
[5] FRENCH POLYNESIA

[1] GHANA
[1] GUADELOUPE
[1] GUINEA-BISSAU
[1] HAITI
[1] INDIA

[3] INDONESIA[1] JAMAICA[1] KIRIBATI[1] MALAYSIA[1] MALDIVES[1] MARSHALL ISLANDS

[1] MARTINIQUE [2] MAURITIUS

[1] MAYOTTE [6] MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF

[1] MONTSERRAT[1] MOZAMBIQUE[1] MYANMAR[1] NAURU[1] NIGERIA[1] NIUE

[3] NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
[1] PAKISTAN
[1] PAPUA NEW GUINEA

[1] PHILIPPINES [1] PUERTO RICO
[1] REUNION [3] SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS

[1] SAINT LUCIA [2] SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

[3] SAMOA [1] SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

Global Invasive Species Database (GISD) 2025. Species profile *Adenanthera pavonina*. Available from: https://iucngisd.org/gisd/species.php?sc=201 [Accessed 07 December 2025]



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[2] SEYCHELLES

[1] SOLOMON ISLANDS

[1] SURINAME

[1] TANZANIA, UNITED REPUBLIC OF

[6] TONGA

[2] UNITED STATES

[1] WALLIS AND FUTUNA

[1] SIERRA LEONE

[1] SRI LANKA

[1] TAIWAN

[1] TOGO

[1] UGANDA

[1] VIET NAM

BIBLIOGRAPHY

13 references found for Adenanthera pavonina

Managment information

Daehler, C.C; Denslow, J.S; Ansari, S and Huang-Chi, K., 2004. A Risk-Assessment System for Screening Out Invasive Pest Plants from Hawaii and Other Pacific Islands. Conservation Biology Volume 18 Issue 2 Page 360.

Summary: A study on the use of a screening system to assess proposed plant introductions to Hawaii or other Pacific Islands and to identify high-risk species used in horticulture and forestry which would greatly reduce future pest-plant problems and allow entry of most nonpests. European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO), 2006. Guidelines for the management of invasive alien plants or potentially invasive alien plants which are intended for import or have been intentionally imported. EPPO Bulletin 36 (3), 417-418.

Pacific Pest Info No. 51, August 2004. ISSN: 1728-5291. Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Plant Protection Service.

Summary: Available from: http://www.spc.int/pps/PestInfo51_Aug04.pdf [Accessed May 20 2005]

PIER (Pacific Island Ecosystems at Risk), 2003. Adenanthera pavonina

Summary: Ecology, synonyms, common names, distributions (Pacific as well as global), management and impact information.

Available from: http://www.hear.org/pier/species/adenanthera_pavonina.htm [Accessed 23 October 2003]

The Landscape Manual, Miami- Dade County Department of Planning and Zoning, January 2001.

Summary: List of Prohibited species in Miami-Dade County.

Available from: http://miami-dade.ifas.ufl.edu/programs/urbanhort/publications/PDF/Miami-Dade-County-Invasive-Plants.pdf [Accessed February 2004].

Varnham, K. 2006. Non-native species in UK Overseas Territories: a review. JNCC Report 372. Peterborough: United Kingdom.

Summary: This database compiles information on alien species from British Overseas Territories.

Available from: http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-3660 [Accessed 10 November 2009]

General information

Barthelat, F. 2005. Note sur les espêces exotiques envahissantes • Mayotte. Direction de le Agriculture et de la Forêt. 30p **Summary:** Tableau synthêtique des plantes exotiques de Mayotte classêes en fonction de leur niveau d envahissement.

Centre des ressources biologiques. Plantes tropicales. INRA-CIRAD. 2007.

Summary: Available from: http://collections.antilles.inra.fr/ [Accessed 31 March 2008]

Conservatoire Botanique National De Mascarin (BOULLET V. coord.) 2007. - Adenanthera pavonina Index de la flore vasculaire de la

Rounion (Trachophytes): statuts, menaces et protections. - Version 2007.1

Summary: Base de donn�es sur la flore de La R�union. De nombreuses informations tr�s utiles.

Available from: http://flore.cbnm.org/index2.php?page=taxon&num=a5e00132373a7031000fd987a3c9f87b [Accessed 28 March 2008] ILDIS, 2001. Adenanthera pavonina L. ILDIS Legumes of the World.

Summary: Taxonomic information, plus distribution and common names.

Available from: http://www.ildis.org/LegumeWeb/6.00/ [Accessed 24 October 2003].

ITIS (Integrated Taxonomic Information System), 2004. Online Database Adenenthera pavonina

Summary: An online database that provides taxonomic information, common names, synonyms and geographical jurisdiction of a species. In addition links are provided to retrieve biological records and collection information from the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) Data Portal and bioscience articles from BioOne journals.

Available from: http://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search_topic=TSN&search_value=26447 [Accessed December 31 2004] Lorenzi, H., Souza, H. M., Torres, M. A. V., Bacher, L. B. Prvores exeticas no Brasil: madeireiras, ornamentais e arometicas. Nova Odessa, Seo Paulo, Brazil:A10 Instituto Plantarum, 2003.

Van-C. Adkins, Richard. 1993. A quick guide to useful nitrogen fixing trees from around the world. NFTA 96-01.

Summary: A good report on the biology and various other characteristics of Adenanthera pavonina.

Available from: http://www.winrock.org/forestry/factpub/FACTSH/a_pavonina.html [Accessed 23 October 2003].