



Expanding Tree Diversity in Hawai'i's Landscapes: Pride-of-Bolivia, Rosewood, *Tipuana tipu*

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This fast-growing relative of the monkeypod tree can reach 60+ feet in height by up to 80 feet in diameter as a flat- to round-crowned specimen. Thus, it is more suitable for parks and hotel grounds than single-family residences. In Hawai'i it is semi-deciduous, but in cooler climates, it defoliates in winter. Establishes rapidly with heavy watering but is somewhat drought tolerant once established.

Recommended Use in Landscapes

- Public open space or courtyard
- Shade or street tree (wide planting zone)
- Parks, schools, hotel grounds

Distribution

- Native to Bolivia, southern Brazil, and Argentina

Propagation Techniques

- Primarily from seed

Cultural Requirements and Tolerance

- Prefers full sun
- Moderate drought tolerance and low salt tolerance
- Prefers well-drained, nutrient-rich soil, but tolerant of wide range of soil types with the exception of alkaline
- Thoroughly mulch and fertilize yearly
- As with monkeypod, pruning required early on to establish main scaffold branches

Flower and Fruit Characteristics

- Showy panicles with yellow to slightly orange flowers produced in mid-summer
- Winged seeds up to 3 inches long



Leaf Characteristics

- Pinnately compound with 11–21 pairs of blue-green to greyish, oval to oblong leaflets
- The thin-textured leaflets are up to 1½ inches long by about ½ inch wide.
- Leaves borne alternately on stems

Advantages for Use in Landscapes

- Forms widespread, dense, flat-topped canopy
- Fast growing
- Showy, colorful flowers
- HPWRA score of 0
- Possible alternative to monkeypod

Disadvantages for Use in Landscapes

- Potentially aggressive root system
- Seed production is prolific.
- Heavy pruning and watering produce lanky growth that destroys the natural canopy shape.

