**Acacia galpinii**

*Family: Fabaceae (Legume Family)*

*Common names: Monkey-thorn, Ishikwato (Shiwendla), Apoedaring (Afrikaans), Molopo (N. Sotho)*

*SA tree number: 198*

Large, fast-growing tree with lush, light green leaves, excellent for large garden.

**General appearance**
- Tall, deciduous, up to 30 m, with rounded crown.
- Bark grey-brown, flaking in thin strips; proclive in parts.
- Leaves with simple, feathery compound, light green.
- Flowers cream, an elongated spike (Sep.-Oct.), produced before new leaves.
- Pods flat, red-to-purple-brown (Feb.-Mar.).

**Where it occurs**
- Open, wooded grassland or woodland, often near streams.
- Northern SA (Limpopo and North West) to Zambia and Tanzania.

**Meaning of the name**
- Acacia—refers to thorns (Greek akis = thorn).
- Galpin—in honour of E.E. Galpin (1858-1941), plant collector.
- Monkey-thorn—monkeys like taking cover in the wide branches and eat the pods.

**Ecology and uses**
- Insects visit and pollinate the flowers.
- Seed dispersed by animals that eat the pods.
- Browsed and used as shade tree by game in summer.
- Provides shelter for nesting birds.

**As a garden tree**
- Ideal for large garden—flat crown and preference for full sun.
- Can survive hot, and dry conditions.
- Easy to propagate from nonperished seeds.
- Blooms in fall, winter, and spring; sown next day.
- Shrub-tolerant, but severe frost can damage young branches.
- Invasive roots may damage structures.
- Well suited for borers.

---

**Halleria lucida**

*Family: Scrophulariaceae (Snapdragon Family)*

*Common names: Tree Fuchsia, Notsosu (Afrikaans), um-Brisa (Zulu), Mafubanele (N. Sotho)*

*SA tree number: 570*

Excellent tree for attracting birds to a garden.

**General appearance**
- Evergreen tree or large shrub, often multi-stemmed.
- Crown spreading, glossy green leaves on drooping branches.
- Bark grey-brown and grooved lengthwise.
- Flowers tubular, orange to brick-red for yellow, clustered in half-axis and on short shoots on branches and main trunk, very rich in nectar.
- Clumps of round green berries, turning black when ripe; edible, but not tasty.

**Where it occurs**
- Cape Peninsula up the east coast to Mpumalanga and Limpopo, extending to Eswatini.
- Gwamut and karroo scrub, evergreen forest & margins, rocky mountain slopes and near rivers.

**Meaning of the name**
- Nalinae—after Alphrect, van Haller (1708-1777), German professor of botany.
- lactea—Latin for shiny, referring to the leaves.
- Notsosu—origin not clear, perhaps from a khoi name.

**Ecology and uses**
- Leaves browsed by game, fruit eaten by birds.
- Used for skin and ear complaints by Zulu people.
- Thought to be a charm against evil.
- Timber light-coloured, hard, heavy and strong.
- Once valued for wagon poles, polls and canoe shafts.
- Wood also used to make a fire by friction.

**As a garden tree**
- Cultivated since 1811, growing in Government Gardens at Cape Town and in greenhouses in England.
- Relatively hardy to frost.
- Excellent for attracting birds, offering nectar and fruit.
- Propagated by seed, cuttings, branches or layers, sow seed from spring to midsummer, fast growing.

---

**Pterocarpus rotundifolius**

*Family: Fabaceae (Legume Family)*

*Common names: Round-leaved kiaat, Round-leaved bloodwood, Doppekrans (Afrikaans), Muhuta (Bantu), mopokwana (N. Sotho), Alikendu (Zulu)*

*SA tree number: 337*

The flowers strongly honey-scented. Bee keepers like it for good source of nectar and food for bees.

**General appearance**
- Deciduous, up to 20 m, open crown, often multi-stemmed.
- Bark grey-brown, splitting longitudinally.
- Leaves divided into 9-17 rounded leaflets, glossy green.
- Flowers yellow, pap-shaped, in sprays, petals crooky, flowering after spring rains.
- Pods flattened, round, one-seeded.

**Where it occurs**
- Open bushland and rocky hillsides, often in colonies.
- Northern KwaZulu-Natal to northern parts of Limpopo and North West.
- Also indigenous to Zimbabwe, Malawi and Zambia.

**Meaning of the name**
- Pterocarpus—winged fruit (pter = wing, karpus = fruit).
- rotundifolius—round leaves (rotund = rounded, folius = leaf)

**Ecology and uses**
- Insects visit and pollinate the flowers.
- Cattle and game browse young leaves.
- Insect plant for leaves of bushveld cherries butterfly.
- Burns easily in bush fires, which stimulate coppicing.
- As a general-purpose timber, but not very durable.
- Leaf infusion as drops for sore eyes.

**As a garden tree**
- Drought-tolerant, grows best in frost-free areas.
- Fast-growing, with nonvasive roots.
- Easily propagated from nonperished seeds, but insect predation fairly common.
- Seeds soaked in hot water overnight, sown next day.
- Also propagated from shoots of large cuttings from stem taken in early spring; roots easily.