

Catalpa

Catalpa (*Bignoniaceae*)



bignonioides, Indian Bean Tree

Origin: North America. Deciduous tree characterised by the large leaves, showy flowers and long fruit which remain hanging from the branches until the flowering of the following year. The short trunk ends in a round crown, not very compact. Oval or heart-shaped leaves, pale green, 25cm in length and width. Flowers in June-July in upright clusters, bell-shaped, white and spotted with yellow and purple. Adapts to all types of soil but grows better in cool and fertile soil. In very cold climates the young plants can be damaged by frost.

bignonioides "Aurea"

It has the same very large leaves as *C. bignonioides*, but they are bright yellow in spring, becoming paler later. The crown has a more globular shape. The same flowers followed by ornamental pods, and the same growing requirements.





bignonioides "Nana" (C. bungei)

Origin: France. Small tree which is reproduced by grafting onto *C. bignonioides*. From the point of grafting it forms a very large crown, densely branched, globular almost spherical without needing to be pruned. Leaves the same as *C. bignonioides* but slightly smaller. It does not flower. Tolerates pollution.

x erubescens "Purpurea" (C. hybrida "Purpurea")

Origin: England. Deciduous tree with crown initially pyramidal, then ovoidal or round. Leaves smaller than *C. bignonioides*, blackish-red in spring, green tinged with red in summer. Flowers, fruits, growing requirements and use: like *C. bignonioides*.

