



Tree Tales: Shaving Brush Tree

Introduced



Other Names:

Pseudobombax elliptic, Dr Seuss tree, amapolla tree

Leaves and Flowers:

In March magnificent long stalked, bronze leaves begin to grow. The leaves are made up of 5 to 7 inch, deep green, palmate (arranged like a hand) leaflets - each of which can reach a foot (30 cm) in length. In autumn, buds looking like small brown toy spinning tops, appear. The fragrant flowers open with a slightly explosive sound revealing either pink or white stamens filled with pollen grains.

Fruit:

Fruits are elongated capsules full of grayish fibers that were once used to stuff pillows and mattresses.