

# ***Tecoma stans* (Linn.) H. B. & K.**

## **Systematic Position**

Kingdom: Plantae

Phylum: Tracheophyta

Class :Magnoliopsida

Order: Lamiales

Family: Bignoniaceae

Genus: *Tecoma*

Species: *Tecoma stans* (L.) Juss. ex Kunth



**Popular names:** Yellow trumpet bush, Yellow bells, Yellow elder, Ginger-thomas, Pachagotla, Sona-patti, Koreneklar.

**Nature:** Shrub

**Flowering time:** October to April

**Fruiting time:** March to June

**Plant distribution:** It is native of the warm parts of Tropical Americas, and widely cultivated in hot, dry climate. It is grown throughout India as an ornamental plant and many different garden varieties and hybrids exist.

### **Gardening notes:**

1. Light: It can tolerate and can grow under bright sunlight.
2. Water: It has average water requirement with a prevalence in dry conditions.
3. Propagation: By seeds and softwood stem cuttings.

### **Economic importance:**

1. Roots are powerful diuretic, vermifuge and tonic.
2. Leaves contain alkaloids, tocomine and tecostanine, which are potent hypoglycemic agents when given intravenously.
3. Seeds contain a fatty oil.
4. It is grown commonly in hedge-rows as a straggly bush.
5. The plant is desirable fodder for livestock.

**Plant description:** A flowering perennial and semi-evergreen shrub reaching to a height of 20 feet.

**Root-** Tap root, branched; **Stem-** Aerial, erect, branched, cylindrical, solid, herbaceous above and woody below, glabrous, bark- pale brown or greyish, unremarkable, rough, some small woody granules present on the surface.

**Leaf-** Compound, unipinnate, imparipinnate, opposite, blade 12-14 cm long, 8-10 cm wide, petiolate, petiole- 4-6 cm long, green, 5-7 leaflets in each leaf, side leaflets almost without stalks, adaxial surface dark green, abaxial surface light green, 5-7 cm long, 3-5 cm wide, lanceolate, ovate, acuminate apex, tapered base, unicostate reticulate venation, toothed margins.

**Inflorescence-** Panicle, Raceme

Flower- Bell shaped, bright yellow trumpets in short clusters at ends or forks of branches, showy, hermaphrodite, hypogynous, complete, zygomorphic, pedicellate, pedicel- small, green, 1 -2 cm long, bracteate, bracts- small, green, bracteolate, bracteole minute, green, ; Sepals – 5, gamosepalous, united in 5 lobes or toothed, green, hairy surface, inferior, valvate aestivation; Petals- 5, united in funnel shape, ends free, yellow, inferior, imbricate aestivation; Stamens - 4, didynamous, the fifth stamen often reduced to staminode or absent, inserted on the basal part of corolla tube, anthers- thin, yellow, ditheous, longitudinal dehiscence, filaments- long, yellow, thin; Carpel- 2, syncarpous, carpels united in bilocular superior ovary, ovules many, axile placentation, style- simple, filiform, stigma- bilobed, a conspicuous fleshy annular hypogynous disc present around the ovary.

**Fruit-** Pod like, loculicidal, elongated, 6-8 inch long, many seeds, flat, green when immature and ruddy brown with white speckles when mature, persistent calyx, apex- sharp, pointed.

**Seed-** Winged, wings- papery, brown, and thin.



Some close-up pictures of plant parts

