



# Gold Medallion Tree

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San Diego Master Gardener  
Training Program 2023

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- ✓ Originally featured in the Los Angeles County Arboretum plant introduction programs of the 1960s and 1970s.
- ✓ It grew to become one of their most famous tree introductions, especially when it became clear how tolerant to adversity the tree is.

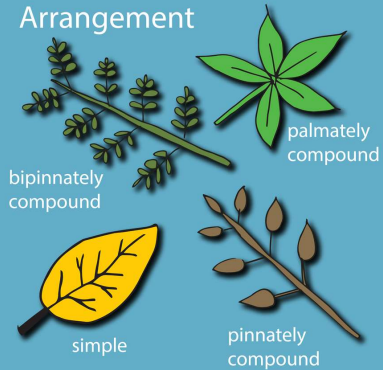


## *Cassia leptophylla*

*Greek leptos meaning narrow and phyllon meaning leaf*

- ✓ Genus, family: Fabaceae
- ✓ Native of Brazil
- ✓ Pinnate, compound leaf (12-18" long), 9-14 pairs of small narrow leaflets (2.5" long)
- ✓ 2-3" perfect, yellow flowers arranged in 6-10" long terminal clusters (racemes), containing 30-50 flowers
- ✓ Dicot

### Arrangement





## Seeing them around town

Ride your bike down La Jolla Boulevard — past Beaumont's restaurant and bar, Bird Rock Coffee, **cruise down a street paved in gold.**

Blooms June - August





## Things to think about In the Garden...

- ✓ Great ornamental shade tree.  
Grows 25-30' tall and 30' wide.
- ✓ Likes full sun, tolerates sandy soil  
pH: Neutral to Slightly Alkaline
- ✓ Grows well by the ocean!  
Tolerates salt spray.
- ✓ Growth rate: ~36 in/year
- ✓ Prefers fast draining soil.
- ✓ Requires a moderate amount of water
- ✓ Considered good patio tree...doesn't  
uproot surrounding concrete.
- ✓ Evergreen
- ✓ Disease/pest resistant. Some mildew and  
leaf spot if temperatures drop to 25C.
- ✓ Prune for shape in fall after blooming
- ✓ Butterfly friendly.
- ✓ Deer resistant
- ✓ Seed pods are poisonous for pets.



# Can grow from seed...



## Step 1: Scarify the Golden Medallion Seeds



## Step 2: Soak in Water Overnight

Find a small jar or paper cup to soak the tree seeds in water overnight and wash your hands with soap and water every day as the seeds are poisonous if ingested.



## Step 3: Place Seeds on Paper Towel

The following day after soaking the seeds, place them about 1-inch apart



## Step 5: Plant Germinated Golden Medallion Tree Seeds in Soil

Germination will take a few days. These tree seeds took 3 days to germinate.



Once germinated, plant the golden medallion tree seed in well-draining soil root side down, and cover lightly with soil. Mist the soil with a spray bottle so that the seeds won't dislodge from excessive watering.



If the seeds rattle when you shake the pod, they are ready to propagate. Extract the seeds with gloves on, since they can be toxic.





Thank You