



<b>Scientific Name</b>	<i>Enterlobium saman</i> (Jacq.) Merr., Syn. <i>Samanea saman</i>
<b>Common Names</b>	Saman, raintree, monkeypad, giant thibet, inga saman, cow tamarind, East Indian walnut, soar, suar, 𑌒𑌔𑌒𑌐
<b>Family</b>	Fabaceae( Leguminosae) Subfamily- Mimosae
<b>Plant description</b>	The Rain Tree is a large deciduous tree that can grow up to 25-30 meters (82-98 feet) in height with a wide, umbrella-shaped canopy. The spread of its canopy can be expansive, sometimes reaching 40 meters (130 feet) in diameter. The trunk is typically stout, with a diameter that can exceed 2 meters (6.5 feet). The bark is rough and grayish-brown, often fissured and sometimes flaky. The tree has bipinnate leaves, which are finely divided and feathery. Each leaf consists of several pairs of pinnae, each with numerous small leaflets. The leaves fold up at night or during rainy weather, which is a unique characteristic that helps reduce water loss. <i>Enterlobium saman</i> produces small, pinkish-white, fragrant flowers arranged in dense, spherical clusters. The fruits are large, flat, and pod-like, measuring up to 20 centimeters (8 inches) in length. When mature, they are dark brown or black and contain several glossy, brown seeds. The pods split open when they fall to the ground, helping in seed dispersal.
<b>Distribution</b>	The native range of this species is Central America to Venezuela and Ecuador. Its range also extends from Mexico South to Peru and Brazil, but it has been widely introduced to South and Southeast Asia as well as the Pacific islands including Hawaii.

<b>Uses</b>	The edible fruit pulp can be made into a beverage that tastes like lemons; the pulp is also an additive to gasoline. Its wood is used for carving and making furniture. The wood of the Rain Tree can be used as firewood and for making charcoal, providing a source of fuel in some regions. The flowers of <i>Enterolobium saman</i> attract bees and other pollinators, making it beneficial for beekeeping and supporting local ecosystems. In traditional medicine, various parts of the tree, including the bark, leaves, and pods, are used for their purported medicinal properties. They are used to treat ailments such as colds, diarrhea, and skin infections.
<b>Flowering and fruiting time</b>	Flowers of <i>Enterolobium saman</i> bloom primarily during the wet season. Fruit ripening occurs February through May and the main crop occurs in April and May.