

# FACT SHEET

## CERATONIA SILLQUA | 'CAROB TREE'



**Carob Tree**



**Leaves and Pods**

**Origin:** Mediterranean

**Habit:** Slow Growing, medium sized evergreen tree attaining a height of 6 metres in 15-20 years.

**Description:** The evergreen leaves are dark- green, oval and leathery, 2.5-6 cm long. The tiny red flowers are in short, slender clusters along the branches usually in autumn. The pods are long and leathery often growing up to 30cm long and are found only on female trees.

**Tolerances:** It will tolerate dry conditions, saline water, intense heat and slight frosts. The tree performs best in a Mediterranean–type climate.

**Notes:** Grows well on low rainfall marginal land. Fruit production begins around the age of 10-15 years and continues for the life of the plant which can be more than 100 years. The wood is hard and highly sought after by wood turners and is also used for fire wood. It provides shade and shelter.

**References:** Garner, M, (1998) The Australian National University, Web Page Accessed: July 11, 2005, <http://sres.anu.edu.au/associated/fpt/nwfp/carob.html>  
<http://tree-species.blogspot.com/2008/04/carob-tree-ceratonia-siliqua.html>