

# Comparison of Similar Looking Plants

## *Delonix regia* and *Peltophorum pterocarpum*



**Scientific name:**

*Delonix regia*

**Common name:** Flamboyant tree

**Family name:** Fabaceae

**Origin:** Madagascar



**Scientific name:**





*Peltophorum pterocarpum*

**Common name:** Yellow flame tree

**Family name:** Fabaceae

**Origin:** From Indo-China, Southeast Asia to Australia

# Character comparison

	<i>Delonix regia</i>	<i>Peltophorum pterocarpum</i>
<b>Trunk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grey and smooth</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Light-grey and fissured</li> </ul> 
<b>Twigs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young shoots have raised lenticels</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young shoots have pale raised lenticels, tomentose</li> </ul> 



# Character comparison

## Foliage

### *Delonix regia*

- Bipinnate compound leaves, feathery
- Leaflets oblong, 0.8-1.2 cm (L) × 0.2-0.4 cm (W)
- Leaf-like stipules found on young foliage









### *Peltophorum pterocarpum*

- Bipinnate compound leaves
- Leaflets oblong, 1-2 cm (L) × 0.3-1 cm (W)
- Small, linear stipules found on leaf buds



# Character comparison

	<i>Delonix regia</i>	<i>Peltophorum pterocarpum</i>
<b>Flowers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scarlet-red</li> <li>• Petals 4-6 cm in length</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yellow</li> <li>• Petals 1.5-2.5 cm in length</li> </ul> 
<b>Fruits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brown to black when ripe, strap-shaped, 30-70 cm (L) × 5-8 cm (W)</li> <li>• Split open when ripe (dehiscent)</li> <li>• 20-50 seeds, transversely positioned in each pod</li> </ul>  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purple-brown when ripe, oblong-elliptic, 5-14 cm (L) × 2-3 cm (W), winged on edges</li> <li>• Do not split open (indehiscent)</li> <li>• 1-5 seeds, longitudinally positioned in each pod</li> </ul>  

## References

- Du Puy, D. J., Phillipson, P. & Rabevohitra, R. (1995). The genus *Delonix* (Leguminosae: Caesalpinioideae: Caesalpinieae) in Madagascar. *Kew Bull.* 50: 445-475.
- National Parks Board. (2009). *Trees of Our Garden City* (2nd edition). National Parks Board, Singapore.
- Rivers, M. (ed.). *Delonix regia* (flamboyant). <http://www.kew.org/science-conservation/plants-fungi/delonix-regia-flamboyant> (accessed on 6 Jan. 2017).
- Soepadmo, E. & Saw, L.G. (eds.) (2000). *Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak*. Sabah Forestry, Forest Research Institute Malaysia, Sarawak Forestry, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

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