

Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: Catalpa bignonioides (CATb)

Common Name: Indian bean tree

Species Description

- Deciduous
- Wide spreading tree with broad domeshaped canopy
- Brown to grey bark
- Large heart-shaped leaves
- Large clusters of purple-spotted cream foxglove-like flowers in spring
- Long, thin bean-like fruit pods

Height and width

15 metres tall by 12 to 15 metres wide

Species origin

Eastern United States of America

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: ≥70m³
- Suitable for use in urban parks as a shade tree
- Suitable for large home gardens

Use considerations

- Grows well in the ACT climate
- High frost tolerance to minus 10 degrees Celsius and moderate drought tolerance
- Grows well in most soils, however prefers well-drained sites
- Can perform better on sheltered sites
- Long lived
- Moderate to fast growth rate
- Very low flammability
- Produces nectar and pollen which attract bees and butterflies

Examples in Canberra

Entrance to the Canberra Rex Hotel on Northbourne Avenue

Availability

Commercially available

