



SEED OF THE MONTH:

Common Name: Lignum Vitae, Tree of Life

Scientific Name: Guaiacum officinale

Family: Zygophyllaceae

Species: Guaiacum officinale

Height:

30 feet

Spacing:

30 Ft.

Sun Exposure:

Full Sun

Bloom Color: The prettiest blue flowers you'll ever see on a tree and the seeds are a spectacular yellow and red!

Bloom Time: Blooms anytime between February and May

Other Details:

Sadly, its natural habitat has not only been destroyed by deforestation and development its use as a self-lubricating hard wood, medicinal properties and resin went unregulated for too long. It is now listed as endangered by the World Conservation Union and is currently regulated as a trade wood.

Soil Requirements: Well drained

Water Requirements: Regularly until established. Once established 1 to 2 times a week.

Propagation Methods:

Seed: Pick the ripe fruit and remove it from its golden casing. Plant red seed in media about ¼" deep. Transplant when seedling is between 7 to 12 inches high. This will take about 18 to 24 months, because it is a very, very, slow growing tree.

Known Uses:

It is said that the wood is so hard you can't drive a nail through it. The wood was used as bearings during WWII, a lap for cutting gems, bearings and gears for clocks and bowling balls! Medicinally it was used as a remedy for arthritis, coughs and syphilis!

Seed packet goes here