

Botanical Name: Erythrina coralloides

Common Name: Naked coral tree

Type of Plant: dicot: tree Character deciduous (spring)

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an upright, mostly single-trunked plant, with large, sturdy branches forming a full rounded canopy; bark becomes pale orange-tan as tree matures; has thorns on all branches; conspicuously blooms while deciduous

Height 20' - 30' Spread equal Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun; survives in partial sun but will not flower

Soil a well-draining loam preferred; tolerates most

Hardiness some frost (zones 12-13, 10-24): thrives in warm sun

Morphology:

Leaves trifoliate, alternate, 8"-16" long; spiny petioles have small deciduous stipules; leaflets are deltoid-ovate, 3"-5"

Flowers bright fiery orange-red, compressed-tubular, somewhat sickle-shaped; in terminal 3"-6" spikes; March-May

Fruit a pod; 6" long, somewhat constricted

Propagation: seed, semi-hardwood or hardwood cuttings

Usage: a striking accent tree for its flowers and irregular branching pattern; useful for tropical and subtropical landscapes; suitable as a lawn tree; has a shallow, aggressive root system

Landscape Care:

Watering regular is preferred; plant can tolerate some drought

Fertilizing balanced, in summer

Pruning mainly to control size and shape

Pests/Diseases relatively free; may have whitefly, aphids

Special Conditions

Origin: N. Mexico Family: Fabaceae