



Nook & Nature

By Neha Kunal Deshmukh

FERTILIZER CYCLE & CARE GUIDE

Simple steps for healthy , happy plants



GOLDEN SHOWER TREE

(CASSIA FISTULA)



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1. Fertilizer Cycle (Stage-wise)

1 Seed Sowing / Sapling Stage (June–August – Monsoon)

Soil: Well-drained loamy soil rich in organic matter (pH 6.5–7.5).

Propagation: By seed or nursery sapling.

→ Soak seeds in warm water overnight for faster germination.

Planting:

Dig pits 2×2×2 ft.

Fill with garden soil + compost + sand (1:1:1).

Add 2–3 kg organic compost or FYM and 100 g neem cake at the base.

Watering: Keep soil moist till the sapling establishes (first 2–3 months).

2 Vegetative Growth Stage (1–2 years)

Feed every 2–3 months with:

→ NPK 19:19:19 (15–20 g per plant in 5 L water).

Add organic compost (2–3 kg) or vermicompost every 3 months.

Keep soil slightly moist — avoid overwatering.

Provide full sunlight (minimum 6 hours/day).

3 Flowering Stage (3–5 years onwards)

Flowering Season: March–June (pre-monsoon to summer).

Before flowering (January–February):

→ Apply Phosphorus-rich fertilizer (NPK 10:26:26 or bone meal 150 g/tree).

During flowering, top-dress with organic compost (2–3 kg/tree).

Add mulch (dry leaves or cocopeat) around the base to retain soil moisture.

4 Mature Tree Maintenance (5+ years)

Once a year, apply:

→ 5–10 kg well-rotted compost + 200 g bone meal/tree (before monsoon).

Deep watering once every 10–15 days during dry months.

Pruning: After flowering season → remove weak or dead branches to maintain shape.



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2. Caring Tips

- ✓ Sunlight: Requires full sunlight (6–8 hrs/day) — key for abundant flowering.
- ✓ Soil: Well-drained, loamy or slightly sandy soil.
- ✓ Watering: Moderate; drought-tolerant once mature.
- ✓ Temperature: Thrives in 20°C–40°C; loves tropical climate.
- ✓ Spacing: 10–15 ft apart if planting multiple trees.
- ✓ Pests/Diseases: Rare, but may get leaf spot or caterpillars — treat with neem oil spray.
- ✓ Growth: Fast-growing; reaches 30–40 ft tall with spreading canopy.

3. Pro Hacks

- 🌱 Seed Germination Trick: Soak seeds in warm water overnight → boosts germination rate.
- 🌱 Flowering Booster: Use bone meal or super phosphate before spring → encourages more blossoms.
- 🌱 Mulching Tip: Use dry leaf mulch to retain moisture & control weeds.
- 🌱 Pruning Hack: Light pruning post-flowering → promotes denser canopy & next season's buds.
- 🌱 Cultural Hack: Avoid planting too close to walls or driveways — roots spread wide.

4. Blooming Pattern in India 🌻

Planting Time: June–August (monsoon)

Flowering Season: March–June

Flower Color: Bright golden yellow in long drooping clusters

Height: 30–40 ft (mature)

Type: Deciduous ornamental tree

Lifespan: 50–60 years

Fragrance: Mild sweet scent

Fruit: Long cylindrical pods with medicinal seeds

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GST NO. 27ENHPD4122G1ZB

