



WEST INDIAN EBONY

(Brya ebenus)

This small tree grows up to 8 m in height. It may originally have come to Jamaica from Cuba. Ebony which is also called coccus wood, has a rough bark and short branches with spines. Its leaves are small somewhat egg-shaped and are inclined to cluster together.

The plant sometimes shed its leaves.

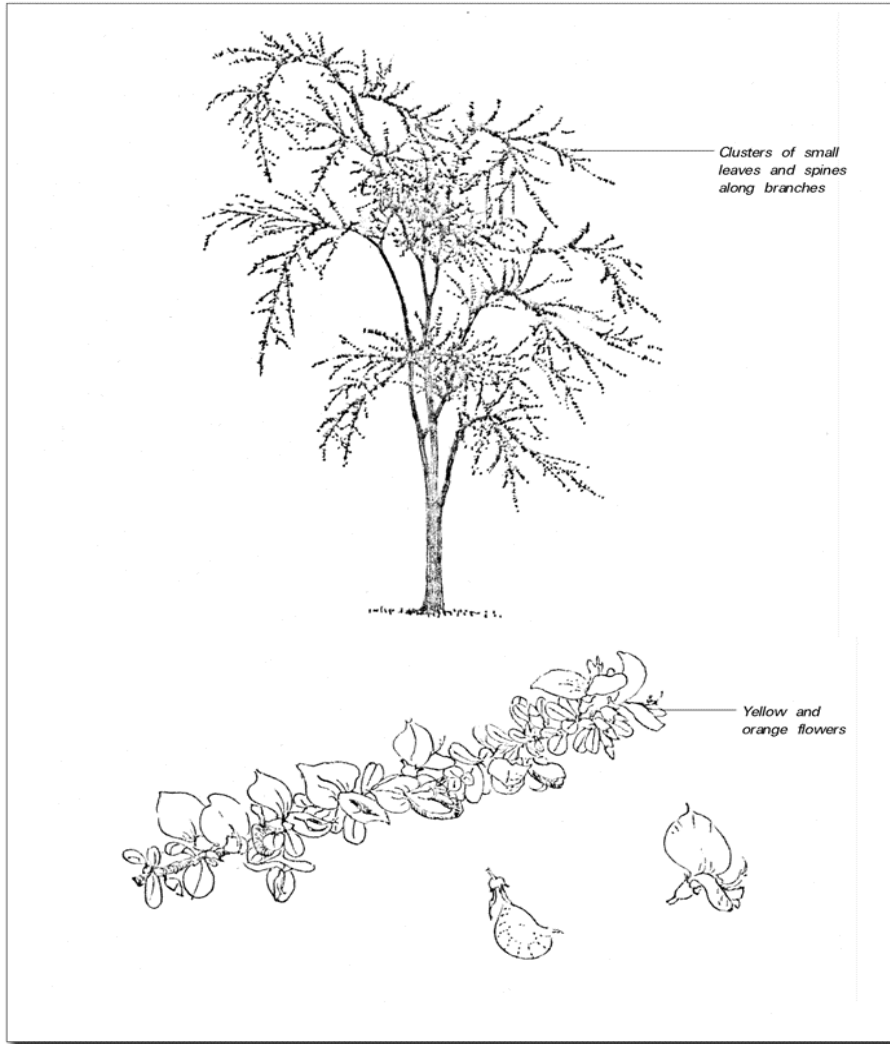
The Ebony tree flowers throughout the year after rain and its lovely little blossoms which seem almost to cover the tree at times are deep orange-yellow. Its inedible fruit when ripe has a brownish colour and off-white hairs.

This tree is quite common in pastures on rocky limestone hills or on rocky alluvial plains in arid areas. It is also cultivated in gardens and coastal areas because of its beauty when in flower.



WEST INDIAN EBONY (*Brya ebenus*)

Family: Papilionaceae	Species: <i>Brya ebenus</i>	Author: (L.) DC. Prodr.
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Height: 8m	Habitat: Dry limestone hills and plains, Sea level-1000m	Persistence: Evergreen
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