



TREE SPECIES (SCIENTIFIC NAME)

*Calophyllum
brasiliense*

PERU COMMON NAME

Alfaro

TREE FAMILY

CALOPHYLLACEAE

AVERAGE LEAF SIZE (CM)

14cm × **4cm**
Length Width

ELEVATIONAL RANGE (M)

0–1500m

TREE HEIGHT

MEDIUM (20–35M)

DISTRIBUTION

**NATIVE TO PERU**

NATIVE TO

Region: Americas**Latin America:** Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela

COFFEE AGROFORESTRY INFORMATION

COFFEE SYSTEM

**ARABICA**

COFFEE IMPACT

**BENEFICIAL TO COFFEE**

CULTIVATION

**PLANTED****NATURAL**

PREVALENCE

Unknown

TREE MANAGEMENT

The seeds are dispersed by animals, mainly bats. Planted by seeds. Germination will be accelerated if the hard seed shell is broken with a hammer before planting. Fresh seeds can be sown directly into the ground. Established plants are very drought tolerant.

TREE BENEFITS AND USES

FARMER USES

**Food, Livestock Forage, Firewood, Lumber, Medicinal, Ornamental**

It is used in the manufacture of cabinets, fine furniture, floors, masts for boats, poles, general carpentry and pulp for paper. Used to cure sores and as a remedy for headache, and to treat diabetes and parasites. The yellow, resinous sap is used to heal wounds and scabies.

FARM SERVICES

**Coffee Shade, Windbreak, Soil Improvement, Erosion Control**

Coffee Shade: planted as a shade tree for coffee and cocoa

Erosion Control: it has been used to stabilize soils and to alleviate soil compaction in degraded grasslands

BIODIVERSITY BENEFITS

**YES**

The seeds are dispersed by bats mainly feeding on the pulp of the fruits.

Last Updated: August 14, 2023

Image: Calophyllum brasiliense flowers photo; Calophyllum brasiliense trunk photo; Calophyllum brasiliense fruits photo: Denise Sasaki © RBG Kew

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Jezeer, Rosalien. (2018). PhD dissertation: Shedding Light on Shade- Reconciling Livelihoods and Biodiversity in Coffee Agroforests. 10.13140/RG.2.2.28895.71844.;

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute: Calophyllum brasiliense (Cambess.). Accessed 5 Oct 2022. Published on the Internet: <https://panamabiota.org/stri/taxa/index.php?taxon=Calophyllum+brasiliense&formsubmit=Search+Terms>;Tropical Plants Database, Ken Fern. tropical.theferns.info. 2022-10-05. tropical.theferns.info/viewtropical.php?id=Calophyllum+brasiliense;Plants of the World Online POWO (2022). "Plants of the World Online. Facilitated by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet <http://www.plantsoftheworldonline.org>