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*Platymiscium pinnatum*

[Synonyms : *Amerimnon pinnatum*, *Lonchocarpus amerimnum*, *Platymiscium polystachyum*, *Platymiscium polystachyum* var. *fendleri*]

**QUIRA MACAWOOD** is a semi-deciduous tree. Native to tropical America (particularly Colombia and Trinidad) it has fragrant yellow flowers.

It is also known as *Granadillo* (Mexican), Macacauba, and Roble.

The crushed leaflets have a bean-like smell.

The large winged, brown seeds are dispersed by the wind.

*Pinnatum* is a botanical reference to the leaf-shape meaning ‘a feathery arrangement of leaflets on each side of the common stalk’.

Sometimes chosen as an alternative to Brazilian rosewood (*Dalbergia nigra*) this hard and strong, reddish- to purplish brown wood has been used locally for heavy construction work, as well as for making railway sleepers, furniture and musical instruments. It has been exported to the United States where it has been used for veneering, and turning, and for making knife and tool handles.