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Senna obtusifolia

[Synonyms : *Cassia humilis*, *Cassia obtusifolia*, *Cassia tora*, *Cassia tora* var. *humilis*, *Cassia tora* var. *obtusifolia*, *Cassia toroides*, *Diallobus falcatus*, *Diallobus uniflorus*, *Emelista tora*, *Senna toroides*]

SICKLE SENNA is an annual. Native to Middle America, tropical South America and the southern United States, it has small bright yellow flowers.

It is also known as American sickle pod, *Casse puante* (Seychellois), *Chakunda* (Bengali, Hindi), Fetid cassia, Italian senna, Java bean, Money bush, Sicklepod, Sickle weed and *Tagarai* (Tamil).

Obtusifolia is made up of Latin *obtus-* (blunt) and *-folia* (leaved) components.

The seeds have provided a mordant (or fixative) for dyeing cloth blue.

In Mexico and India the seeds have also been used as a substitute for coffee.

Medicinally, in India sickle senna has provided a treatment for skin disorders including ringworm.