

## *Gleditsia triacanthos*

### Scientific classification

Kingdom : Plantae  
Clade : Angiosperms  
Order : Fabales  
Family : Fabaceae  
Genus : *Gleditsia*  
Species : *G. triacanthos*



*Gleditsia triacanthos*

### DESCRIPTION

The honey locust, *Gleditsia triacanthos*, can reach a height of 20–30 m (66–98 ft). They exhibit fast growth, but live a medium-long life span of about 120 years. The leaves are pinnately compound on older trees but bipinnately compound on vigorous young trees. The leaflets are 1.5–2.5 cm (0.6–1 in) (smaller on bipinnate leaves) and bright green. They turn yellow in the autumn. Honey locusts leaf out relatively late in spring, but generally slightly earlier than the black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*). The strongly scented cream-colored flowers appear in late spring, in clusters emerging from the base of the leaf axils.

### Medicinal use of Honey Locust:

The pods have been made into a tea for the treatment of indigestion, measles, catarrh etc. The juice of the pods is antiseptic. The pods have been seen as a good antidote for children's complaints. The alcoholic extract of the fruits of the honey locust, after elimination of tannin, considerably retarded the growth, up to 63% of Ehrlich mouse carcinoma. However, the cytotoxicity of the extract was quite high and the animals, besides losing weight, showed dystrophic changes in their liver and spleen. The alcoholic extract of the fruit exerted moderate oncostatic activity against sarcoma 180 and Ehrlich carcinoma at the total dose 350 mg/kg/body weight/mouse. Weight loss was considerable. An infusion of the bark has been drunk and used as a wash in the treatment of dyspepsia