

*Albizia lophantha* (Willd.) Benth, PLUME ALBIZIA, PLUME ACACIA. Small tree, evergreen, unarmed, 1-trunked, in range to 8 m tall; main branches horizontal, with widely spaced leaves; trunk < 12 cm diameter; bark fibrous and tough, grayish brown, brownish below wax, dull, transversely wrinkled, weakly ridged with smooth longitudinally veins and finer wrinkles. **Stems:** ridged, somewhat zigzagged, streaked olive green and rosy brown and becoming dark purple on ridges, internodes mostly 50–70 mm long, canescent. **Leaves:** helically alternate, even-2-pinnately compound with 7–13(–15) pairs of primary leaflets, petiolate, with stipules; stipules 2, attached to stem, acuminate and scalelike, hairy, persistent; petiole typically 30–60 mm long, with a conspicuous pulvinus at base and an extrafloral nectary at midpoint, the nectary oval,  $\pm$  3 mm long, green; blade oblong to chevron-rectangular in outline, 180–210  $\times$  110–140 mm, with primary leaflets spreading or ascending, spaced 9–14 mm apart along rachis; rachis strongly ridged, with canescent hairs and erect, reddish glandular hairs, primary leaflets lacking stipel and having an extrafloral nectary at junction of the terminal pair of primary leaflets and sometimes another nectary at junction of penultimate pair of primary leaflets; petiolules with conspicuous pulvinus, having an upper pair of minute appendages at tip; primary leaflets often diverging at about 30–60°, 50–120 mm long, symmetric in length but lower leaflet length < terminal < middle leaflet length, with 25–40 pairs of secondary leaflets along axis; secondary leaflets with sleep movements, overlapping, asymmetrically oblong to elliptic, 3.5–8  $\times$  1–2 mm, oblique at base, entire, broadly acute at tip, pinnately veined, upper surface glabrous, lower surface strigose and glaucous. **Inflorescence:** raceme, axillary, cylindric, 40–45 mm  $\times$  ca. 25 mm, many-flowered, bracteate, appearing shaggy; bract at midpoint on peduncle, early-deciduous; axis straight with fine ridges, green and reddish, white-tomentose and reddish glandular-hairy; bractlet subtending pedicel inconspicuous; pedicel 2–3 mm long. **Flower:** bisexual, radial (corolla slightly bilateral), ca. 10 mm across; **nectary** glands base of ovary; **calyx** 5-lobed; tube cup-shaped, 1.5–2 mm long, green, strigose; lobes  $\pm$  equal, deltate, 0.7 mm; **corolla** (3–)5(–6)-lobed, funnel-shaped, 4.5–5.5 mm long, light green, densely strigose; lobes unequal with 1 deep sinus, acute, 1.2–3 mm long, having a tuft of white hairs at tip; **stamens** many, fused at base into short tube, 10–12 mm long, pale yellowish green, exerted ca. 7 mm; tube 1–2.5 mm long, anthers dithecal, < 0.2 mm long, yellow, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen yellow; **pistil** 1, glabrous; ovary superior, fusiform compressed side-to-side, straight, 1-chambered with single row of < 12 ovules attached to upper side; style ca. 8 mm long, straight or not, if straight exerted beyond anthers. **Fruit:** legume (pod), flat except bulging over seeds, dehiscent by 2 valves, 5–11-seeded, oblong, 55–90  $\times$  13–18 mm, brown, straight or somewhat twisted to flexed, slightly narrowed between seeds. **Seed:** ovoid-spheroid, 6–7  $\times$  4.5–5.5 mm,  $\pm$  glossy black, hard, with minute cellular texture and a fine, looplike mark on each side; plug over hilum smooth, black, with embedded, persistent stalk (funiculus). Mid-February–late-March.

Naturalized. Small tree known from a population occurring in Griffith Park and also in *Populus trichocarpa* woodland of Rustic Canyon, growing in full shade near where formerly there were residences and ranches. *Albizia lophantha* has two-compound leaves that, looking skyward, resemble shoots of *Jacaranda*, but the fruits are clearly those of a mimosoid legume.

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