



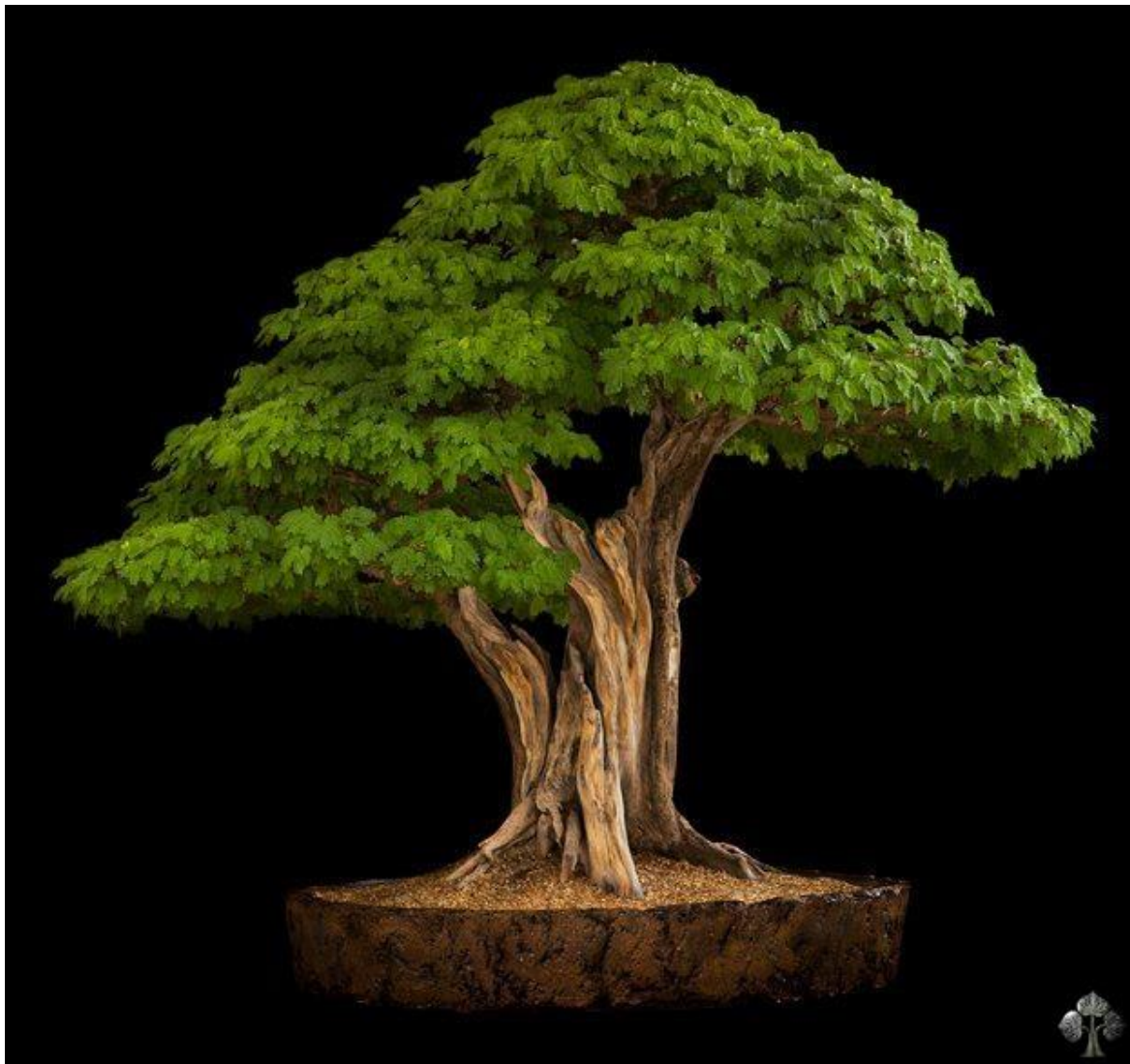
# THE MIDWAY NEWS

## 2. Tree of the Month: Leopard Tree

THIS tree, WHICH GROWS IN SANDY SOIL, MAY REACH A HEIGHT OF 15 FEET OR MORE. IT IS CONSIDERED ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL TREES OF THE COASTAL RAINFOREST AND IS LISTED AS A CRITICALLY ENDANGERED SPECIES. THE RAIN TREE IS VERY MUCH FAVOURED AS A BONSAI SUBJECT.

**POSITION:** WHILE THE RAIN TREE MAY BE ABLE TO TOLERATE COOLER TEMPERATURES, IT SHOULD BE PROTECTED IN COLD WEATHER. EXPOSURE TO COLD MAY RESULT IN LEAF AND/OR BRANCH DIEBACK. THIS BONSAI IS IDEALLY AN OUTDOOR PLANT, ALTHOUGH IT CAN ADAPT TO AN INDOOR ENVIRONMENT IF GIVEN ENOUGH LIGHT

**WATERING:** THE BRAZILIAN RAIN TREE BONSAI SHOULD BE KEPT EVENLY MOIST. DO NOT ALLOW THE TREE TO DRY OUT COMPLETELY. THIS SPECIES ALSO APPRECIATES A HUMIDITY TRAY, IN ORDER TO MIMIC ITS NATURAL TROPICAL ENVIRONMENT.



Leopard Tree – Nacho Marin



# THE MIDWAY NEWS

## 2. Tree of the Month: Leopard Tree Continued

**Feeding:** During the growing season, a balanced liquid mixture should be applied weekly. In the fall and winter once a month will do.

**Propagation:** can be propagated by way of air layering or cuttings.

**Repotting:** This should be carried out every two or three years; make this judgement based upon whether the root system has become pot-bound (this species does not like being root bound).

**Pruning:** When pruning, leave a small nub in place to allow for potential dieback; some enthusiasts refrain from using concave cutters on the tree because of this tendency.



Leopard Tree – Jim Smith