

***St. Joseph's College
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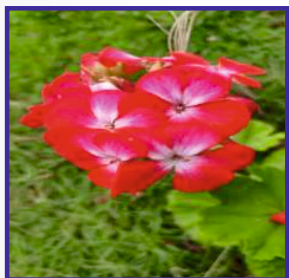
***Handbook On Flora Of
St. Joseph's College***



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FLOWERS AND ORNAMENTAL PLANTS



Botanical Name : *Adenium obesum* (Forssk.) Roem. & Schult. **01**
 Family : APOCYNACEAE
 Common name : DESERT ROSE

INTERESTING FACTS :

Native to Africa. Commonly grown in pots as bonsai due to its thick caudices. It is an evergreen or drought deciduous succulent shrub (which can also lose its leaves during cold spells, or according to the subspecies or cultivar). It can grow to 1–3 m (3.3–9.8 ft) in height.



Botanical Name : *Cuphea hyssopifolia* Kunth **02**
 Family : LYTHRACEAE
 Common name : MEXICAN / FALSE HEATHER

INTERESTING FACTS :

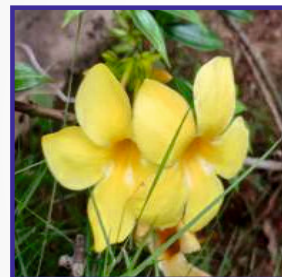
It is a small evergreen shrub native to Mexico and grows about 60cm height. This ornamental plant grows to about 60 cm (24 in) high by 90 cm (35 in) wide and has purple, lavender or white colored flowers.



Botanical Name : *Hamelia patens* Jacq. **03**
 Family : RUBIACEAE
 Common name : FIREBUSH

INTERESTING FACTS :

Hamelia patens are a large perennial shrub or small tree. Native of central and southern Florida. Leaves are used to cure skin problems. It has beautiful flowers which attract more butterflies and humming birds.



Botanical Name : *Pentalinon luteum* (L.) B.F.Hansen & Wunderlin **04**
 Family : APOCYNACEAE
 Common name : WILD ALLAMANDA
 INTERESTING FACTS :

The genus is evergreen trees, shrubs, or vines. An ornamental, evergreen fast growing climber. Flowers are bright yellow and last for long time. The flower has five lobed sepals and a bell or funnel shaped corolla of five petals, yellow in most species.



Botanical Name : *Tagetes erecta* Linn. **05**
 Family : ASTERACEAE
 Common name : BIG MARIGOLD / AFRICAN MARIGOLD

INTERESTING FACTS :

This species is native to Mexico, widely naturalized and found commonly in India. It has around 30 species and colours ranging from orange, yellow, and gold. Flowers attract more butterflies and used in garland. It grows up to 1 m (3ft 3in) by 0.4 m (1ft 4in) at a medium rate. The main characteristic of the flowers is that they are grouped in small heads or in solitary Inflorescences, on peduncles up to 15 cm long.



Botanical Name : *Tecoma capensis* (Thunb.) Lindl **06**
 Family : BIGNONIACEAE
 Common name : CAPE HONEY SUCKLE

INTERESTING FACTS :

An ornamental nectar plant native to south Africa. Fast growing scrambling shrub. Flower colour ranges from orange, yellow, red etc. It is a scrambling shrub, it grows to 2–3 m (7–10 ft) in height and a similar width. Normally evergreen. Used as medicinal plant to relieve pain and sleeplessness.



Botanical Name : *Anthurium andraeanum* Linden ex Andre **07**
 Family : ARACEAE
 Common name : FLAMINGO FLOWER
 INTERESTING FACTS :

The genus is native to the Americas, where it is distributed from northern Mexico to northern Argentina. Flowers are in dense spiral on the spadix. Spathe is very attractive. Spadix and spathe are main features of anthurium breeders. Anthurium is a genus of herbs often growing as epiphytes on other plants.



Botanical Name : *Rosa x damascena* Mill.
Family : ROSACEAE
Common name : ROSE

08

INTERESTING FACTS :

Cultivated hybrid comes in many color & combinations. Known for its beauty and fragrance, used as commercial crop. Flowers used in garlands, floral decorations, herbal tea, flavoring food, rose-water & gulkand. The petals are applied externally as an astringent. *Rosa x damascena* is a deciduous Shrub growing to 1.5 m (5ft).



Botanical Name : *Thunbergia laurifolia* Lindl.
Family : ACANTHACEAE
Common name : BLUE TRUMPET VINE

09

INTERESTING FACTS :

An ornamental, evergreen fast growing climber plant native to India and Thailand. Plant can be propagated through cuttings. Malaysian medicinal plant used to detoxifying poisons (snake bite) and used as antipyretic. The hermaphrodite flower is trumpet-shaped with a short broad tube, white outside and yellowish inside. The corolla is pale blue in color with 5–7 petals.



Botanical Name : *Euphorbia milii* Des Moul.
Family : EUPHORBIACEAE
Common name : CHRIST PLANT

10

INTERESTING FACTS :

This species is native to China and is found across the Pan tropics. This plant's tea helps to lower blood pressure, cholesterol, and digestive and inflammatory issues. Leaves are used to promote hair health. It is a bushy, evergreen shrub or small tree with a height of 2.5–5 meters (8–16 feet) and a width of 1.5–3 meters (5–10 feet). It aids in the treatment of liver illness, lowers the risk of cancer, and speeds up the metabolism. Leaves are used to promote hair health.

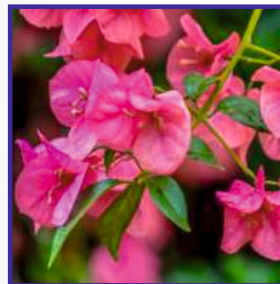


Botanical Name : *Gomphrena globosa* Linn.
Family : AMARANTHACEAE
Common name : GLOBE AMARANTH / VADAMALLI

11

INTERESTING FACTS :

Native of south America. The round-shaped flower inflorescences are a visually dominant feature and cultivars have been propagated to exhibit shades of magenta, purple, red, orange, white, pink, and lilac. At maturity, the flower heads are approximately 4 cm long and the plant grows up to 24 inches in height. It is an out crossing species that is pollinated by butterflies, bees, and other insects. It is used in herbal medicine.



Botanical Name : *Bougainvillea glabra* Choisy
Family : NYCTAGINACEAE
Common name : PAPER FLOWER

12

INTERESTING FACTS :

Native of south America. The bracts can vary in color ranging from white, red, mauve, purple red and orange. The species grow 1 to 12 meters (3 to 39 ft) tall, scrambling over other plants with their spiky thorns. They are evergreen where rainfall occurs all year, or deciduous if there is a dry season. It is called "paper flower" because its bracts are thin and papery.



Botanical Name : *Heliconia rostrata* Ruiz & Pavon
Family : HELICONIACEAE
Common name : FALSE BIRD OF PARADISE

13

INTERESTING FACTS :

It is a herbaceous perennial plant native to Peru, Bolivia, Colombia. Sepals and bracts flowers face downwards and hence store water for birds and insects. National flower of Bolivia. It attracts more humming birds.

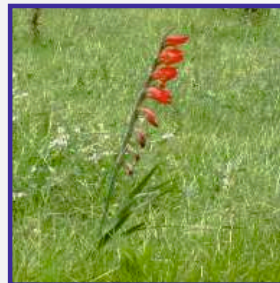


Botanical Name : *Jasminum auriculatum* Vahl
Family : OLEACEAE
Common name : SMALL JASMINE

14

INTERESTING FACTS :

It is found in India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and the Andaman Islands. Flowers are used to extract essential oil. Flowers used to make perfumes due to heavy scent.



Botanical Name : *Gladiolus dalenii* Van Geel
Family : IRIDACEAE
Common name : SWORD LILY

15

INTERESTING FACTS :

It is one of the most widely distributed species of *Gladiolus*, ranging from eastern South Africa and Madagascar. It produces five tall flower spikes of flowers of different colors like yellow, white, red etc. It grows up to 1.5 m (5ft). It blooms from July to August.



Botanical Name : *Syagrus romanzoffiana* (Cham.) Glassman
Family : ARECACEAE
Common name : QUEEN PALM

16

INTERESTING FACTS :

It is a palm native to South America, introduced throughout the world as a popular ornamental garden tree. The tree can reach up to 15 meters with pinnate leaves looking attractive. The trunk is smooth and grey, usually about 30 cm wide, with widely spaced rings.



Botanical Name : *Ficus benjamina* Linn.
Family : MORACEAE
Common name : WEEPING FIG

17

INTERESTING FACTS :

Native to native to Asia and Australia. It is an official tree of Bangkok. It is a tree reaching 30 m (98 feet) tall in natural conditions, with gracefully drooping branches and glossy leaves 6–13 cm in oval shape. If used as indoor, one should be careful about its later as it may cause allergy.



Botanical Name : *Hyophorbe lagenicaulis* (L.H. Bailey) H.E.Moore
Family : ARECACEAE
Common name : BOTTLE PALM

18

INTERESTING FACTS :

Native to round island & Mauritius. Bottle palm has a large swollen trunk. It is a myth that the trunk is a means by which the palm stores water. Bottle palms have only four to six leaves open at any time. Its inflorescence branches in 4 orders and its 2.5 cm fruits can be orange or black.



Botanical Name : *Spathiphyllum wallisii* Regel.
Family : ARACEAE
Common name : PEACE LILY

19

INTERESTING FACTS :

NASA identified Peace lily as a top 10 indoor plant. It is a herbaceous perennial housing plant which produces white long-lasting flowers. The spadix is generally cream or ivory and spathe is very attractive. It produces flowers in the typical aroid structure.



Botanical Name : *Nephrolepis exaltata* (Linn.) Schott
Family : LOMARIOPSIDACEAE / NEPHROLEPIDACEAE

20

Common name : FISHBONE FERN / SWORD FERN

INTERESTING FACTS :

It is a species of fern. It is native to tropical regions throughout the world. This evergreen plant can reach as high as 40–90 centimeters (16–35 in), and in extreme cases up to 1.5 meters (4 ft 11 in). A popular house plant, perennial, drought tolerant and non toxic.

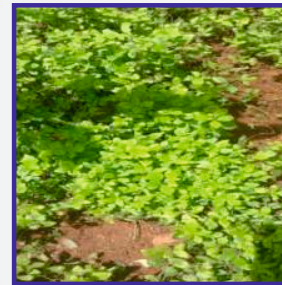


Botanical Name : *Duranta goldiana* Linn
Family : VERBENACEAE
Common name : DURANTA GOLDIANA

21

INTERESTING FACTS :

In the summer, cascading clusters of blue tubular flowers appear followed by wonderfully contrasting orange-yellow berries. Native to southern Florida to tropical America, fast growing multi stemmed shrub grown as border plants. The pale blue flowers are fragrant attracts butterflies.



Botanical Name : *Pilea microphylla* (Linn.) Liebm
Family : URTICACEAE
Common name : ANGELWEED / JOYPOWDER PLANT

22

INTERESTING FACTS :

Native to Florida, Mexico and west indies. Direct sunlight may cause the leaves to turn brown and fall off. Plant enjoys through water.



Botanical Name : *Tradescantia spathacea* Sw.
Family : COMMELINACEAE
Common name : MOSES-IN-THE-CRADLE

23

INTERESTING FACTS :

Native to southern Mexico. Widely cultivated as ornamental house plant. Leaves are dark to metallic green above, with glossy purple underneath. It will reach up to 0.30 m (1 ft) long by 76 mm (3 in) wide. They are very attractive foliage plants.



Botanical Name : *Thuja occidentalis* Linn.
Family : CUPRESSACEAE
Common name : THUJA

24

INTERESTING FACTS :

Thujas are evergreen ornamental trees growing from 10 to 200 feet (3 to 61 meters) tall, with stringy-textured reddish-brown bark. The shoots are flat, with side shoots only in a single plane. The leaves are scale-like 1–10 mm long. The extracted oil is used for soaps, room spray & insecticides



Botanical Name : *Dieffenbachia seguine* (Jacq.) Schott
Family : ARACEAE
Common name : DUMB CANE

25

INTERESTING FACTS :

NASA identified Top 10 indoor plant. Native to Mexico, West Indies & Argentina. It is a herbaceous plant. Sap is toxic. The herbaceous perennial grows 3 feet (0.91 m) to 10 feet (3.0 m) in height and 2 feet (0.61 m) to 3 feet (0.91 m) in width. The plant's leaves are large and green, and often with white patterns.



Botanical Name : *Colocasia esculenta* (Linn.) Schott.
Family : ARACEAE
Common name : ELEPHANT EAR PLANT / TARO

26

INTERESTING FACTS :

Ornamental plant native to Malaysia and western Australia. All the parts are edible and used as vegetable. It is a perennial, tropical plant primarily grown as a root vegetable for its edible, starchy corm. The plant has rhizomes of different shapes and sizes. Leaves are up to 40 cm × 24.8 cm. They are dark green above and light green beneath.



Botanical Name : *Peperomia acuminata* Ruiz & Pav.
Family : PIPERACEAE
Common name : RADIATOR PLANT

27

INTERESTING FACTS :

It has more than 1000 species native to central America. Plants are perennial grown for ornamental purpose can be propagated by cuttings.



Botanical Name : *Dracaena reflexa* Lam.
Family : ASPARAGACEAE
Common name : SONG OF INDIA

28

INTERESTING FACTS :

Native to Madagascar. It is widely grown as an ornamental plant and houseplant, valued for its richly colored, evergreen leaves, and thick, irregular stems. While it may reach a height of 4–5 m. It may be used to cure malarial symptoms, poisoning, dysentery, and diarrhea.



Botanical Name : *Pandanus amaryllifolius* Roxb
Family : PANDANACEAE
Common name : PANDAN LEAVES

29

INTERESTING FACTS :

It has fragrant leaves which are used widely for flavoring in the cuisines of Southeast Asia and South Asia. Pandan leaves and their extract have also been used as a food preservative due to their antibacterial and antifungal properties. The leaves are used in Indian recipes to aroma rice. Leaves are either used fresh or dried.

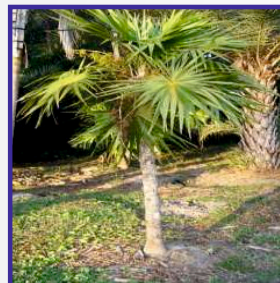


Botanical Name : *Zoysia tenuifolia* Thiele.
Family : POACEAE
Common name : KOREAN GRASS / MASCARENE GRASS

30

INTERESTING FACTS :

Ornamental grass used to stop erosion. It is popular lawn grass because of its external texture, soft feel and low growth habit. They are excellent cover for flat sandy open areas and are widely used as lawn grasses.



Botanical Name : *Thrinax radiata* Lodd. ex Schult. & Schult.f.
Family : ARECACEAE
Common name : FLORIDA THATCH PALM

31

INTERESTING FACTS :

Ornamental palm native to Caribbean islands. This species reaches a height of 20 feet. It has large compound segmented leaves which are 4 to 5 feet wide and 2.5 feet long. It is native to many Caribbean islands, Central America, and far southern Florida.



Botanical Name : *Sansevieria roxburghiana* Schult. & Schult.f.
 Family : ASPARAGACEAE
 Common name : SNAKE PLANT

32

INTERESTING FACTS :

Native to Africa & Madagascar. Also called mother-in-law- Tongue. Plant can be easily propagated by cuttings. The leaves are used in traditional medicines for first aid for wounds. According to a NASA Clean Air Study, along with other plants such as golden pothos (*Epipremnum aureum*) and corn plant (*Dracaena fragrans*), *Dracaena trifasciata* is capable of purifying air by removing some pollutants such as formaldehyde, xylene, and toluene. The plant's sap has antiseptic qualities, and the leaves are used for bandages in traditional first aid.



Botanical Name : *Furcraea foetida* (Linn.) Haw.
 Family : ASPARAGACEAE
 Common name : FALSE AGAVE

33

INTERESTING FACTS :

Native to Caribbean and northern south America. It is an evergreen perennial sub shrub, stemless or with a short stem up to 1 m tall. The leaves are sword-shaped, 1-1.8 m long and 10-15 cm broad. Plant is cultivated for ornamental purposes. Leaves are used to produce natural fiber and in making ropes.



Botanical Name : *Philodendron tripartitum* (Jacq.) Schott
 Family : ARACEAE
 Common name : PHILODENDRON

34

INTERESTING FACTS :

Native to Tropical America. Most popular housing plant needs less sunlight. It was first identified in 1829. It is a most popular housing plant needs less sunlight.



Botanical Name : *Jatropha podagrica* Hook.
 Family : EUPHORBIACEAE
 Common name : BUDDHA BELLY PLANT

35

INTERESTING FACTS :

It is a succulent plant and a perennial herb growing up to 1 meter (3 feet) tall. There are many uses of it in folk medicine, including as an analgesic, tonic, aphrodisiac, purgative, laxative, and to treat infections, intestinal worms, snakebite and more.



Botanical Name : *Dracaena marginata* Lem.
 Family : ASPARAGACEAE
 Common name : MADAGASCAR DRAGON TREE / TRI COLOUR DRAGON TREE

36

INTERESTING FACTS :

It is an upright, evergreen shrub with single or multiple, relatively thin stems topped by a rosette of long, ribbon-like leaves. Grows up to 6-15 ft. tall.



Botanical Name : *Beaucarnea recurvata* Lem.
 Family : ASPARAGACEAE
 Common name : PONY TAIL PALM

37

INTERESTING FACTS :

Its habitat is low deciduous forest, with average temperatures of 20 °C and an annual rainfall of 800 mm, and a well-marked dry season of between 7 and 8 months. It is often grown as a houseplant or an outdoor plant in temperate climate gardens.

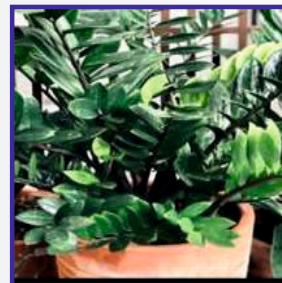


Botanical Name : *Cycas revoluta* Thunb.
 Family : CYCADACEAE
 Common name : KING SAGO

38

INTERESTING FACTS :

This very symmetrical plant supports a crown of shiny, dark green leaves on a thick shaggy trunk that is typically about 20 cm (7.9 in) in diameter, sometimes wider. roots are called coralloid with an It allows nitrogen fixation.



Botanical Name : *Zamioculcas zamiifolia* (Lodd.) Engl.
 Family : ARACEAE
 Common name : ZZ PLANT / EMERALD PALM

39

INTERESTING FACTS :

It is a herbaceous perennial growing to 45-60 centimeters (17.7-23.6 in) tall. The plant is able to remove volatile organic compounds in this order of effectiveness: benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene and xylene.



Botanical Name : *Juniperus virginiana* L.
Family : CUPRESSACEAE
Common name : EASTERN RED CEDAR

40

INTERESTING FACTS :

The fragrant, finely grained, soft, brittle, very light, pinkish to brownish red heartwood is very durable, even in contact with soil. Because of its resistance to decay, fence posts are fashioned from the wood.



Botanical Name : *Dypsis lutescens* (H. Wendl) Beentze & J. Dransf.
Family : ARECACEAE
Common name : ARECA PALM / BUTTERFLY PALM

41

INTERESTING FACTS :

It grows 6–12 m (20–39 ft) in height and bears panicles of yellow flowers in summer. It is grown as an ornamental plant in gardens in tropical and subtropical regions. It has gained the Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Garden Merit. Its leaves are curved upwards in multiple stems & hence the name butterfly palm.



Botanical Name : *Kalanchoe thyrsiflora* Harv.
Family : CRASSULACEAE
Common name : PADDLE PLANT

42

INTERESTING FACTS :

The name was first validly published for this southern African species by William Henry Harvey in 1862. It is a succulent plant producing a stalk about 1m tall, which dies back after flowering.



Botanical Name : *Asparagus aethiopicus* Linn.
Family : ASPARAGACEAE
Common name : ASPARAGUS FERN

43

INTERESTING FACTS :

The species was originally described in 1767. It is popular in Europe as an ornamental plant. It is a branching perennial herb with tough green aerial stems which are sparsely covered with spines.



Botanical Name : *Syngonium podophyllum* Schott
Family : ARACEAE
Common name : ARROW HEAD PLANT

44

INTERESTING FACTS :

It climbs a few meters tall over the trunks of tropical jungle trees, clinging by its roots. The cultivars cultivated indoors reach a height of up to 1.5 m (4.9 ft). As a vine, it requires some support.

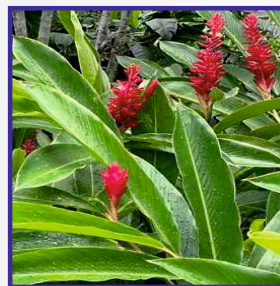


Botanical Name : *Duranta erecta* L.
Family : VERBENACEAE
Common name : GOLDEN DEW DROP

45

INTERESTING FACTS :

Duranta erecta is a sprawling shrub. It can grow to 6 m (20 ft) tall and can spread to an equal width. Mature specimens possess auxiliary thorns, which are often absent on younger specimens. The flowers are light blue or lavender blooming in summer.



Botanical Name : *Alpinia purpurata* K.Schum.
Family : ZINGIBERACEAE
Common name : RED GINGER

46

INTERESTING FACTS :

They are native Malaysian plants with showy flowers on long brightly colored red bracts. Red ginger can also be grown as a houseplant and its cut flowers can be used in arrangements. Red ginger tends to spread.



Botanical Name : *Epiphyllum oxypetalum* (DC.) Haworth
Family : CACTACEAE
Common name : NIGHT BLOOMING CEREUS / PRINCESS OF THE NIGHT

47

INTERESTING FACTS :

It plant is native to Sri Lanka where it is known as Kaduphul. It is believed that plant blooms rarely and that too late night. Stems are branched and erect, climbing or sprawling, profusely branched, primary stem cylindrical, 1-4 m long, flattened laterally.



Botanical Name : *Codiaeum variegatum* (L.) A.Juss. **48**
 Family : EUPHORBIACEAE
 Common name : RED ICETON CROTON
INTERESTING FACTS :
 It is native to Indonesia, Malaysia, Australia, and the western Pacific Ocean islands. It is a tropical, evergreen shrub growing to 3 m (9.8 ft) tall and has large, thick, leathery, shiny evergreen leaves.



Botanical Name : *Codiaeum variegatum* (L.) A.Juss. **49**
 Family : EUPHORBIACEAE
 Common name : ZANZIBAR CROTON
INTERESTING FACTS :
 Zanzibar showcases colorful foliage in beautiful shades of red, orange, green, and yellow. It is a great decor piece for contemporary and modern home interiors.



Botanical Name : *Codiaeum variegatum* (L.) A.Juss. **50**
 Family : EUPHORBIACEAE
 Common name : GOLD STAR CROTON
INTERESTING FACTS :
 This beautiful, slow-growing variety has narrow dark green leaves patterned with shiny yellow splashes. This evergreen plant is very low demanding and easy to grow. It can reach up to a height of 3-6 feet.



Botanical Name : *Codiaeum variegatum* (L.) A.Juss. **51**
 Family : EUPHORBIACEAE
 Common name : DREADLOCKS CROTON
INTERESTING FACTS :
 With deep dark green-colored, curled, and twisted leaves, the name suits this variety of croton. The leaves gradually change into bright red, orange, and yellow colors.



Botanical Name : *Asparagus densiflorus* (Kunth) Jessop **52**
 Family : ASPARAGACEAE
 Common name : FOXTAIL FERN
INTERESTING FACTS :
 It is a variable evergreen perennial plant, closely related to the vegetable asparagus. Its dense 50 cm plumes of foliage are especially valued in flower arranging.



Botanical Name : *Asparagus setaceus* (Kunth.) Jessop **53**
 Family : ASPARAGACEAE
 Common name : CLIMBING ASPARAGUS
INTERESTING FACTS :
 It is a scrambling perennial herb with tough green stems and leaves, which may reach several metres in length.



Botanical Name : *Asplenium nidus* Linn. **54**
 Family : ASPLeniACEAE
 Common name : CRISPY WAVE FERN / BIRD'S-NEST FERN
INTERESTING FACTS :
 Native to East Tropical Africa commonly called Birds Nest Palm. Widely cultivated houseplant.



Botanical Name : *Heliconia psittacorum* L.f. **55**
 Family : HELICONIACEAE
 Common name : PARROT'S BEAK / FALSE BIRD-OF-PARADISE
INTERESTING FACTS :
 It is a perennial herb. It is often cultivated as a tropical ornamental plant.