

## Jasmine

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### Jasmine



Jasminumsambac 'Grand Duke of Tuscany'

### Scientific classification

Kingdom:	Plantae
(unranked):	Angiosperms
(unranked):	Eudicots
(unranked):	Asterids
Order:	Lamiales
Family:	Oleaceae

Tribe:	Jasmineae
Genus:	Jasminum L.
Type species	
Jasminumofficinale L.	
Species	
More than 200, see List ofJasminum species <sup>[1][2][3]</sup>	
Synonyms <sup>[4]</sup>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jacksonia hort. ex Schltl</li> <li>• Jasminium Dumort.</li> <li>• Menodora Humb. &amp;Bonpl.</li> <li>• Mogorium Juss.</li> <li>• Noldeanthus Knobl.</li> </ul>	

## Description

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Jasmines can be either deciduous (leaves falling in autumn) or evergreen (green all year round), and can be erect, spreading, or climbing shrubs and vines. Their leaves are borne opposite or alternate. They can be simple, trifoliate, or pinnate. The flowers are typically around 2.5 cm (0.98 in) in diameter. They are white or yellow in color, although in rare instances they can be slightly reddish. The flowers are borne in cymose clusters with a minimum of three flowers, though they can also be solitary on the ends of branchlets. Each flower has about four to nine petals, two locules, and one to four ovules. They have two stamens with very short filaments. The bracts are linear or ovate. The calyx is bell-shaped. They are usually very fragrant. The fruits of jasmines are berries that turn black when ripe.

Species belonging to genus *Jasminum* are classified under the tribe Jasmineae of the olive family (Oleaceae). *Jasminum* is divided into five sections—*Alternifolia*, *Jasminum*, *Primulina*, *Trifoliolata*, and *Unifoliolata*.<sup>[4]</sup>

The genus name is derived from the Persian *Yasameen* ("gift from God") through Arabic and Latin.<sup>[13][14][15]</sup>

Species

Main article: List of *Jasminum* species



A double-flowered cultivar of *Jasminum sambac* in flower with an unopened bud. The flower smells like the tea as it opens.

Cultivation and uses

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Widely cultivated for its flowers, jasmine is enjoyed in the garden, as a house plant, and as cut flowers. The flowers are worn by women in their hair in southern and southeast Asia. The delicate jasmine flower opens only at night and may be plucked in the morning when the tiny petals are tightly closed, then stored in a cool place until night. The petals begin to open between six and eight in the evening, as the temperature lowers.

Jasmine tea



Jasmine is considered an absolute and not an essential oil as the petals of the flower are much too delicate and would be destroyed by the distillation process used in creating essential oils. Other than the processing method it is essentially the same as an essential oil. Absolute is a technical term used to denote the process of extraction. It is in common use. Its flowers are either extracted by the labour-intensive method of enfleurage or through chemical extraction. It is expensive due to the large number of flowers needed to produce a small amount of oil. The flowers have to be gathered at night because the odour of jasmine is more powerful after dark. The flowers are laid out on cotton cloths soaked in olive oil for several days and then extracted leaving the true jasmine essence. Some of the countries producing jasmine essential oil are India, Egypt, China and Morocco.

Madurai, the Southern district of Tamil Nadu, is famous for the Jasmine production. In the western and southern states of India, including Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu, jasmine is cultivated alongside other flowers in private homes, within gardens or as potted plants. These flowers are used in regular worship at home as well as for hair ornaments (for the girls and women of the house). Jasmine is also cultivated commercially, for both the domestic purposes discussed above and other purposes (such as use in the perfume industry). It is used in rituals like marriages, religious ceremony, and festivals. In the Chandan Yatra of lord Jagannath, the deity is bathed with water flavored in sandalwood paste and jasmine.



Jasmine also used as garland for the Deity in South India. Image: Shri Meenakshi Sundareswarar, Madurai, Tamil Nadu

Gallery

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Jasmine Flower full bloom on the plant near Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India.

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Jasmine Flower full bloom on the plant near Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India.