

Hibiscus rosa-sinensis Linn.

Systematic Position

Kingdom: Plantae

Division: Magnoliophyta

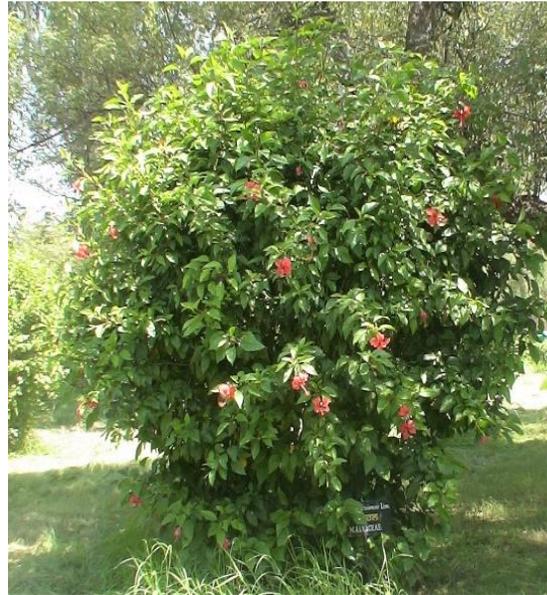
Class: Magnoliopsida

Order: Malvales

Family: Malvaceae

Genus: *Hibiscus*

Species: *rosa-sinensis*



Popular names: Shoe flower, Chinese hibiscus, Jasut, Jasum, Mandaar, Jia pushpa, China rose, Dasani, Gudhal, Gurhal, Jaba, Sadaphool, Pushpam.

Nature: Shrub

Flowering time: March to October

Plant distribution: It is native of Tropical Asia. It is commonly found throughout the tropics and as a house plant throughout the world. Most of its ornamental varieties are hybrids.

Gardening notes:

- 1. Light:** It requires full sun but can tolerate semi-shade.
- 2. Water:** It requires thorough watering but has moderate drought tolerance.
- 3. Propagation:** By Seeds, Rooting, Layering and Grafting.

Economic importance:

1. Flowers are eaten raw or pickled.

2. Flowers yield a dye formerly employed for blackening shoes, hair and eyebrows.
3. The decoction of flowers is given in bronchial catarrh.
4. Leaves are anodyne, emollient and aperients.
5. Infusion of petals is given as a demulcent in cough and refrigerant drink in fevers and useful in strangury, cystitis and other genito-urinary troubles.
6. Oil from the fresh petals and olive oil in equal proportion find application in alopecia.
7. Juice of leaves is beneficial in gonorrhoea and alopecia.

Plant description: An ornamental perennial shrub reaching to a height of 10 feet.

Root- Tap root, branched; **Stem-** Aerial, erect, woody, branched, solid, cylindrical, glabrous, bark- rough, dark brown, small woody eruptions present on the surface.

Leaf- Simple, alternate, green, nearly smooth, ovate, acute apex, serrate margins, glabrous, blade 5-7 cm long, 4-5 cm wide, acute apex, prominent midrib, multicostate reticulate venation, petiolate, petiole 3-4 cm long, green, stipulate, stipules small, green, 2 at each end of petiole, sword shaped.

Inflorescence- Solitary axillary.

Flower- Red, complete, hermaphrodite, actinomorphic, hypogynous, large, showy, pentamerous, pedicellate, pedicel 4-6 cm long, longer than the leaves, green, bracteate, braceolate, bracts small, green; **Epicalyx-** variable, 5-7, fused, linear, hairy, green; **Sepals-** 5, green, bell shaped, gamosepalous, inferior, persistent, campanulate, partite, valvate aestivation; **Petals-** 5, red, attractive, polypetalous, serrated ends, slightly united below, adnate to the staminal tube, inferior, twisted aestivation; **Stamens-** indefinite, monadelphous, epipetalous, staminal tube longer than the corolla, filaments united to form staminal tube around the gynoecium, anthers- monothealous, reniform, basifixed, longitudinal dehiscence, inferior, extrose; **Carpels-** 5, syncarpous, ovary- superior,

pentalocular, axile placentation, many ovules in each locule, style- long, slender, passes through the staminal tube ending in five distinct rounded stigmas, stigma- five, capitate, velvety hairs present, red.

