



Scientific Name	<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i> D. Don
Common Name	Blue Jacaranda, Brazilian rosewood, Jacaranda Tree
Family	Bignoniaceae
Plant Description	<p><i>J. mimosifolia</i> is a medium-large, deciduous tree, up to 20 m in height, with an attractive spreading crown. The species is native to Argentina and Brazil, but has been introduced as an ornamental to many parts of the tropics. <i>J. mimosifolia</i> grows best in highland areas up to 2400 m with an annual rainfall of 900-1300 mm. It grows well on well-drained sandy loam soils, although it will survive on poorer shallow soils. The species does not tolerate waterlogged or clay soils. It is a deep-rooted competitive tree, so few plants or crops can grow beneath it. <i>J. mimosifolia</i> is most well-known for the clusters of striking bell-shaped, blue-violet flowers that are produced during the dry season and which are characteristic of many cities in tropical and sub-tropical countries. <i>J. mimosifolia</i> can be established from either seed or cuttings. Fresh seed has a germination capacity of 50-92% and generally no seed pre-treatment is required. The trees need considerable care during the first two years, requiring weeding, regular watering and staking until well established. They can be fast growing on good sites achieving 3 m per year during the first two</p>

	<p>years and 1 m per year in subsequent years. Established trees respond well to light coppicing. If used as an ornamental, an open environment or large spacing is required for this light-demanding species with its wide canopy. The timber of <i>J. mimosifolia</i> is yellowish-white, hard, moderately heavy and easy to work. It is used for interior carpentry and poles and to make small items such as tool handles and carvings. The timber trade name 'jacaranda' is not associated with <i>J. mimosifolia</i>, however, but with <i>Dalbergia nigra</i>. The species also provides fuelwood and is used as a bee forage. The bark and roots are used to treat syphilis and infusions of the flowers are used to treat amoebic dysentery in Guatemala and Mexico. Bark extracts are also used to suppress the hatching of larval soil nematodes. <i>J. mimosifolia</i> provides pleasant open shade and is an effective windbreak, but is most widely planted as an ornamental.</p>
<p>Distribution</p>	<p><i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i> is native to southern Brazil, Paraguay, northwestern Argentina (Salta, Jujuy, and Catamarca provinces) and southern Bolivia. It is found in the Dry Chaco and flooded savannas, and in the Southern Andean Yungas of the eastern Andean piedmont and inter-Andean valleys, up to 2600 meters elevation.</p>
<p>Uses</p>	<p>The tree is well-suited for cooling patios due to its light, dappled shade. It makes an ideal street tree, creating a spectacular sight when in full bloom. The bark and roots of this species are used to treat syphilis. Infusions of the flowers are used to treat amoebic dysentery in Guatemala and Mexico. Flowers, leaves and bark are administered for the treatment of Neuralgia and Varicose Veins and generally against infections. The tree is used to treat hepatitis.</p>
<p>Flowering and Fruiting Time</p>	<p>Under natural conditions, the flowering season is early summer (middle to late June in the southern part of Japan). Under natural conditions, the flowering season is early summer (middle to late June in the southern part of Japan). Under natural conditions, flowering season is early summer middle to late June.</p>

