

Plumeria



Plumeria, known as frangipani, is a genus of flowering plants in the family Apocynaceae. Most species are deciduous shrubs or small trees. The species variously are endemic to Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean, and as far south as Brazil and north as Florida (United States) but are grown as cosmopolitan ornamentals in warm regions. Common names for plants in the genus vary widely according to region, variety, and whim, but frangipani or variations on that theme are the most common. Plumeria is also used as a common name, especially in horticultural circles.

Description

Plumeria flowers are most fragrant at night to lure sphinx moths to pollinate them. The flowers yield no nectar, though, and simply trick their pollinators. The moths inadvertently pollinate them by transferring pollen from flower to flower in their fruitless search for nectar. Insects or human pollination can help create new varieties of plumeria. Plumeria trees from cross-pollinated seeds may show characteristics of the mother tree or their flowers might just have a totally new look.

Plumeria species may be propagated easily by cutting stem tips in spring. Cuttings are allowed to dry at the base before planting in well-drained soil. Cuttings are particularly susceptible to rot in moist soil. One optional method to root cuttings is applying rooting hormone to the clean fresh-cut end to enable callusing. Plumeria cuttings could also be propagated by grafting a cutting to an already rooted system. The Plumeria Society of America lists 368 registered cultivars of Plumeria as of 2009.

In culture

In Mesoamerica, plumerias have carried complex symbolic significance for over two millennia, with striking examples from the Maya and Aztec periods into the present. Among the Maya, plumerias have been associated with deities representing life and fertility, and the flowers also became strongly connected with female sexuality. Nahuatl-speaking people during the height of the Aztec Empire used plumerias to signify elite status and planted plumeria trees in the gardens of nobles.

Plumeria native to-

tropical America

Plumeria is a genus of eleven species of shrubs and small trees in the dogbane family (Apocynaceae) native to tropical America from Brazil to Mexico and the Caribbean.

Are frangipani and plumeria the same

Frangipani is a fragrant flowering tree, also known as plumeria. The oil of the colorful flower, also known as the Hawaiian Lei flower, has been used in perfumery since the 16th century, usually as a top or heart note. The flowers from a frangipani tree are either white, yellow, pink, or multi-color

Plumeria be used for

Plumeria blooms may be used raw in salads, steeped into a tea, fried or as an ingredient in making candies, jellies and omelets. Recipes that call for "frangipani" or "frangipane" in the ingredients, often mean an almond paste, rather than plumeria flowers.

Types of plumeria are there-

Red frangipani

Plumeria pudica

Singapore graveyard flower

Plumeria alba

References-

- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plumeria>