

*Ixora coccinea*

**Scientific classification**

Kingdom : Plantae  
Clade : Angiosperms  
Order : Gentianales  
Family : Rubiaceae  
Subfamily : Ixoroideae  
Tribe : Ixoreae  
Genus : *Ixora*  
Species : *I. coccinea*



*I. coccinea*

**DESCRIPTION:**

*I. coccinea* is a dense, multi-branched evergreen shrub, commonly 4–6 ft (1.2–1.8 m) in height, but capable of reaching up to 12 ft (3.7 m) high. It has a rounded form, with a spread that may exceed its height. The glossy, leathery, oblong leaves are about 4 in (10 cm) long, with entire margins, and are carried in opposite pairs or whorled on the stems. Small tubular, scarlet flowers in dense rounded clusters 2–5 in (5.1–12.7 cm) across are produced almost all year long.

**MEDICINAL USES:**

- The leaves and bark are used as a remedy for diarrhea
- The leaves are used externally to treat sores, ulcers etc
- The roots are said to be analgesic, antiseptic, astringent, diuretic, sedative and stomachic. They are reported to stimulate gastric secretions and bile, and to provide relief in abdominal pains
- They are used in the treatment of hiccups, fever, gonorrhoea, loss of appetite, nausea, diarrhoea and dysentery.
- The roots are applied externally to treat sores and chronic ulcers, and also to treat headache. A decoction or infusion of the roots is administered to clear the urine. In Thailand, the roots or flowers are used as anti-inflammatory and antidiarrhoeal drugs, astringent, tranquilizer and appetite stimulant.