

Bougainvillea spectabilis

Scientific classification

Kingdom : Plantae
Clade : Angiosperms
Order : Caryophyllales
Family : Nyctaginaceae
Genus : *Bougainvillea*
Species : *B. spectabilis*



Description

Bougainvillea spectabilis grows as a woody vine or shrub, reaching 15 to 40 feet (4.6 to 12.2 m)^{[4][5]} with heart-shaped leaves and thorny, pubescent stems.^[5] The flowers are generally small, white, and inconspicuous, highlighted by several brightly colored modified leaves called bracts. The bracts can vary in color, ranging from white, red, mauve, purple-red, or orange. Its fruit is a small, inconspicuous, dry, elongated achene.

Uses

The aqueous extract and decoction of this plant have been used as fertility control among the tribal people in many countries. Furthermore, it has been shown to possess anticancer, antidiabetic, antihepatotoxic, anti-inflammatory, antihyperlipidemic, antimicrobial, antioxidant, and antiulcer properties.