



my favorite tree is

***JACARANDA MIMOSIFOLIA***



# Bignoniaceae

## (Trumpet creeper family)

- a family of flowering plants comprising of about 650-750 species in 116-120 genera. Members of the family are mostly trees and shrubs
- **Leaves, Stem & Roots** : woody stems, opposite and usually compound leaves, no stipules. There are often tendrils used for climbing. The calyx has five lobes, and is sometimes 2-lipped.
- **Flowers**: bell or funnel shaped with five lobes. Grows in clusters and are usually large and brightly-colored. There are four stamens.
- **Seeds**: a superior ovary; seeds are usually flat with papery wings


# Cultivation of Jacaranda sp.

- grown as ornamental plants throughout the subtropical regions of the world, valued for their intense flower displays.
- The most often seen is the *Jacaranda mimosifolia*. Other members of the genus are also commercially important; for example the Copaia (*Jacaranda copaia*) is important for its timber because of its exceptionally long trunk.





# *Jacaranda mimosifolia*

- Deciduous or semievergreen tree
  - Brazilian native
  - Zones 12, 13, 15-24
  - Full sun, moderate water
  - Moderate rate of growth
  - Roots have low potential damage to sidewalks
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# Blue Jacaranda



- Wide, with open, irregular, oval-headed habit
- 25-40 ft. high, 15-30 ft. wide
- Sometimes multi-trunked or even shrubby

# *Jacaranda mimosifolia*

Finely cut, ferny leaves

New leaves may emerge quickly, or branches may remain bare until tree comes into bloom- typically mid- to late spring, though blossoms may appear earlier or open at any time throughout summer.





# *Jacaranda mimosifolia*

## Flowers:

- 8" to 10" long
- Terminal pyramidal panicles
- Trumpet shaped to bell shaped
- 5 lobed corolla, two lipped
- Normally lavender, but can be white (var 'Alba')

## Fruit or Cones:

Oblong and 2" wide dark brown to black disk like capsules with numerous winged seeds.





# Jacaranda

Resistant to oak root fungus

Takes a wide variety of soil, but does best in sandy soil

**Debris:** moderate; fruit can be a litter problem in well manicured lawns and/or hardscapes.





# Planting

- Recommended to never prune a jacaranda because otherwise new vertical shoots will grow from the pruned branches distorting the natural shape of the tree.
- **Best climate:** Jacarandas do not like frost. They are well suited to warm coastal areas but will grow inland and further south if protected from frosts for the first couple of years. In colder areas plants may flower later in the season and trees will be smaller in height and spread.

# Pest concerns for Jacaranda spp.

Jacaranda is very resistant to pests and diseases. Found no major pests.

## **Problem:**

- Leaves with blackish sooty mold, sticky honeydew and whitish cast skins
  
- **Probable Cause:**
  - Aphids, including Bean aphid. Small green or black insects in groups.



# Pretoria

- The South African city of Pretoria is often called Jacaranda City due to the large numbers of these trees that turn the city blue when they flower in the spring.
- The time of year the Jacarandas bloom in the city, coincide with the year-end exams at the University of Pretoria and legend has it that if a flower from the Jacaranda tree drops on your head, you will pass all your exams!



# Pretoria





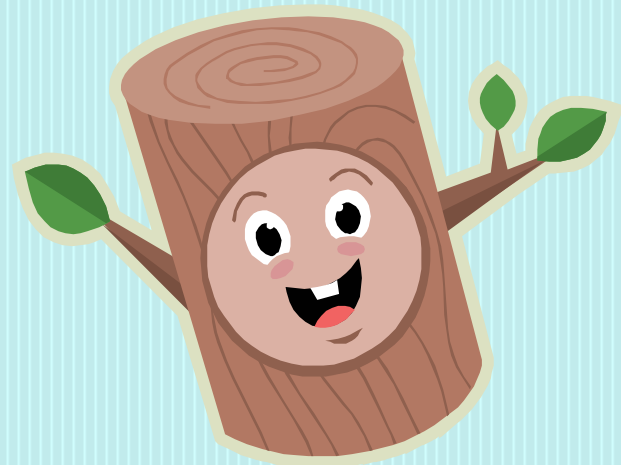
# Purple panic

- This has led to the slang name "exam tree" or "purple panic" being attached to the plant. At the University of Queensland in Australia students even maintain a joke superstition that if a Jacaranda bloom falls on their head during exam time, they will fail an exam. The bad luck can be broken by catching another bloom before it hits the ground.



# Holiday Season

- People in Australia sing a **Christmas** song about Jacaranda trees, since the blooms are only seen in summer time.
  - "When the bloom of the jacaranda tree is here, **Christmas** time is near" ...





# Medicinal Use



- Water extract of *Jacaranda mimosifolia* shows higher antimicrobial action against *Escherichia coli*. The extract also acts against Staph.
- The tree is used to treat hepatitis and in folk tradition the flowers, leaves and bark are used to ease neuralgia and varicose veins.
- It is scientifically proven that Jacaranda has qualities that treat leukemia. Hot Jacaranda leaf baths treat wounds and skin infections and the tree also helps in the treatment of acne.

# Other varieties



- *Jacaranda jasminoides*
  - Purple-Flowered Jacaranda
    - Lilac to dark purple tubular flowers
  - *Jacaranda jasminoides* 'Maroon'
    - Dwarf varieties





**THE  
END**