

Botanic name : *Cestrum aurantiacum* Lindl. --- Edwards's Bot. Reg. 30(Misc.): 71. 1844 (IK)

Common name : Orange Jasmine, Orange Cestrum

Family : Solanaceae

Habitat : Terrestrial

Distribution : Tropical America (West Indies); now throughout tropics

Description : Large, evergreen flowering shrub, but it can also be a climbing vine or small tree; alternate leaves are light green and ovate with entire leaf margin (13 cm long, 7 cm wide). Leaf apex is acute or has a distinct drip tip; flowers golden yellow flowers are tubular with 5 - 6 small, round lobes; arranged in clusters at branch tips (terminal clusters) and in leaf axils (axillary clusters). Flowers produce a citrus-like fragrance at night. This species blooms constantly throughout most of the year; fruits are small, round, white berries.

Phytochemicals: Alkaloids, anthraquinones, cardiac glycosides, flavonoids, phenolic compound, tannins and terpenoids, essential oils (palmitic acid, myristic acid, linoleic acid, stearic acid, oleic acid), steroidal saponins- diurnoside, β -amyrin and β -sitosterol, ursolic acid

Medicinal/Economic uses: Cut and dried flower-Antimicrobial, Cytotoxic, thrombolytic, hypolipidemic, antibacterial, antifungal (inhibit spore germination and mycelia growth), and antioxidant. Leaves are source of vitamin D3, having calcinogenic potential. Plants are the potential source of bioactive compounds as mosquito larvicidal, insecticidal and piscicidal. Ornamental. Often used in house hold garden borders.