

Botanic name : *Tibouchina semidecandra*(Decne).cogn.

Family: Melastomataceae

Common name: Princess Flower

Habitat: Terrestrial

Distribution : Native to Brazil, and grown as a garden plant throughout the world. Introduced in India as garden plant in Sikkim, Meghalaya, Assam, and Arunachal Pradesh

Description: An evergreen shrub bearing big beautiful bluish purple flowers, vine like slender stems, simple leaves; velvety green and often tinged with red and are lighter on the undersides; brilliant purple flowers are 3 inches in diameter and so vividly colored they appear fluorescent; phytochemically, glutinol, taraxerol isolated from this plant

Phytochemicals: Leaf Flavonoid compounds (quercetin, quercetin 3-O- α -l-(2''-O-acetyl) arabinofuranoside, avicularin, and quercitrin), stem barks ellagitannin (3,3'-O-dimethyl ellagic acid 4-O- α -l-rhamnopyranoside)

Medicinal/Economic uses: Mainly used as ornamental plant but infusion used for stomach problems, wound healing and to treat cataract. Leaves possess antioxidant and antityrosinase activities. Used as traditional medicine in Brazil-leaf infusion has been used for its wound healing properties and isolated compounds from this genus show antibacterial, antioxidant, and anti-parasitic activities.