

Rosaceae

ro-ZAY-see-eye



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- *Rosaceae* is a medium sized family of flowering plants, including 4828 known species in 91 genera.
- *Rosacea* can be trees, shrubs, or herbaceous plants. Most species are deciduous, but some are evergreen.
- Cultivation of roses began about 5000 years ago, probably in China.
- Three very common plants in the *rosaceae* family are the Rose, the Indian Hawthorn (*Rhaphiolepis indica*) and the Loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*).



Rose



- Roses are erect, climbing or trailing shrubs.
- The flowers of wild roses usually have five petals, whereas, the flowers of cultivated roses are often double
- The rose plants fleshy, sometimes edible berrylike “fruit” is known as a hip.
- Some common pests and diseases are aphids, fungi and rust.
- The average life span for a rose is 35 years but they can go much longer.

Rose



- The amount of water a rose plant needs is influenced by soil, temperature and surrounding plants. Normally, weekly watering is enough (4-5 gallons).
- Roses are pollinated by insects such as butterflies, bees and hummingbirds, or through wind transfer.
- The seeds of the Japanese rose are used in Oriental medicine as a diuretic and laxative. Infusions of dried rose petals are used for headaches and taken after meals to aid digestion.

Rhaphiolepis indica aka Indian Hawthorn

- Indian hawthorn is a low maintenance shrub or ground cover.
- It prefers a site in full sun or partial shade.
- It can tolerate sandy soil and salt spray, making it appropriate for coastal plantings.
- They prefer a moist, well drained soil but they are moderately drought tolerant once established.
- The fruit is edible when cooked and can be used to make jam.
- It's native to the areas of southern China, Japan, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam.
- It is popular in the Bonsai culture.
- Relatively pest resistant but sometimes bothered by leaf spot (fungal disease), aphids and powdery mildew.



Indian Hawthorn

- Bees, butterflies and birds are attracted to Indian Hawthorn and aid in pollination.
- Pruning is minimal. It only needs to be pruned when there are dead, diseased or damaged branches or when it is larger than you want it to be.
- Can be propagated from seeds or cuttings
- The berries have been used to treat heart disease. They contain high levels of flavonoids, which help dilate the blood vessels, improve blood flow, and protect the blood vessels from damage.



Eriobotrya japonica (Loquat)

- A large evergreen shrub or tree, grown commercially for its yellow fruit, and also cultivated as an ornamental plant.
- Native to central eastern China. Introduced to Japan more than 1000 years ago where it was developed horticulturally and is still highly valued.
- Classified as a subtropical fruit, loquats are grown most successfully in citrus producing areas. Fruit grown along the central California coast rarely have good flavor or color and seldom develop enough sugar content to make them sweet.
- Average life span for a loquat tree is 50 years and the maximum height is 15-30 feet.



Loquat



- Loquat trees are susceptible to minor pests, such as codling moths, green apple aphids and scale insects. They are also susceptible to more serious problems such as fire blight.
- Loquat trees grow rapidly but can be pruned to keep it in a compact shape so that it fits within your garden.
- Normally pollinated by bees.
- Fairly easy to propagate by taking a 6" long cutting from a healthy stem tip. Strip the lower leaves, dip the cut end in rooting hormone and place it in a container of moistened potting soil. Place the container in a shaded area in the garden and water regularly. If the cutting develops roots, you'll see new growth at the tip of the cutting.
- The fruits of the loquat are edible and rich in calcium, iron, Vitamin A, and potassium.
- Medicinally, the loquat leaves are used to make a tea that has been reputed to promote skin, respiratory, and intestinal health.

