

HIBISCUS SYRIACUS

ARDEN'S DOUBLE PURPLE



Fam. Malvaceae

DESCRIPTION

Coarse, shrubby and densely branched; some specimens, if cultivated as saplings, can grow up to 3 metres tall.

LEAVES

Oval and dark-green, with a jagged edge.

FRUITS

The fruits are pods about 1-2 cm large containing small seeds.

HABITAT

Ornamental plant native to Asia (China, India).

STEM

Erect with a grey and smooth bark; it becomes wrinkled and deeply furrowed over time.

DISTRIBUTION

It is used as an ornamental plant in gardens and in pots on terraces, as isolated saplings or for the creation of flowering hedges.

FLOWERS

Hermaphrodite, very large and decorative flowers whose colour ranges from purple to lilac. They last about a day but are constantly replaced. A showy stem column protrudes from the centre of the corolla, ending with 5 pistils. It blooms from July to late September. It is a melliferous plant.

ROOTS

Deep and branched.

INTERESTING FACTS

It is the national flower of South Korea and it has been its symbol since 1963. Imported from Asia in the 16th century, it spread to Europe, where at first it was considered a greenhouse plant and, only later, an open ground plant. From England, it reached the American colonies, where it is known today as the 'Rose of Sharon'. Hibiscus is considered the symbol of fleeting beauty due to the grace of the flowers and their short duration.

