

Botanical Name: Bauhinia blakeana

Common Name: Hong Kong Orchid Tree

Type of Plant: dicot: tree/shrub Character partially deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a multi-trunked plant with an umbrella-shaped canopy; is irregularly branched, and more shrublike than Bauhinia variegata

Height 10-20' (25') Spread equal Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoor full or partial sun

Soil prefers moist loam; tolerates most soils

Hardiness some frost (zones 19,21,23) prefers warm coastal locations

Morphology:

Leaves palmate, alternate, conspicuously bi-lobed; gray-green; 3-6" across; larger than other Bauhinia species

Flowers rose-maroon to cranberry red; orchid-shaped, 4-6" across, in terminal racemes; larger than other Bauhinia species; fall-early winter

Fruit a large flat pod: 6-12" long, dark brown at maturity

Propagation: seed

Usage: an interesting accent tree, valued for its form, showy flowers, and unusual foliage; messy; suitable for subtropical-tropical

Landscape Care:

Watering regular is preferred; tolerates some drought

Fertilizing balanced, in spring

Pruning as a tree, head high when young

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions

Origin: Trop.Asia Family: Fabaceae