

Bauhinia blakeana

(Hong Kong Orchid Tree, Blake's Butterfly Tree)

Hong Kong Orchid Tree is a small, broad tree with large, blue-green leaves and orchid-like blooms in multiple shades. This species is sterile and so does not produce fruit. It does well in hot and dry climates.

They tend to suffer from nutritional deficiencies, and the wood is weak and susceptible to breakage, but otherwise are very desirable in the urban landscape.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

Pronunciation: bah-HIN-ee-uh blay-kee-AY-nuh
Plant Type: Tree
Origin: Hybrid Origin, Hong Kong
Heat Zones: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16
Hardiness Zones: 10, 11, 12, 13
Uses: Screen, Hedge, Specimen, Border Plant, Container, Shade, Windbreak, Wildlife, Street, Pollution Tolerant / Urban, Reclamation
Size/Shape
Growth Rate: Fast
Tree Shape: Round, oval, Vase
Canopy Symmetry: Irregular
Canopy Density: Medium
Canopy Texture: Coarse
Height at Maturity: 5 to 8 m, 8 to 15 m
Spread at Maturity: 5 to 8 meters
Time to Ultimate Height: 10 to 20 Years

Bauhinia blakeana

(Hong Kong Orchid Tree, Blake's Butterfly Tree)



Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Alternate

Leaf Venation: Palmate

Leaf Persistence: Evergreen

Leaf Type: Simple

Leaf Blade: 10 - 20

Leaf Shape: Orbiculate

Leaf Margins: Lobate, Cleft

Leaf Textures: Medium

Leaf Scent: No Fragrance

Color(growing season): Green, Blue-Green

Color(changing season): Green

Flower

Flower Showiness: True

Flower Size Range: 10 - 20

Flower Type: Solitary

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: No Fragrance

Flower Color: Red, Purple, Pink

Seasons: Summer, Fall, Winter

Trunk

Trunk Has Crownshaft: False

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Suspected to breakage

Number of Trunks: Multi-Trunked, Can be trained to one trunk

Trunk Esthetic Values: Not Showy, Smooth

Fruit

Seasons: Summer, Fall, Winter

Bauhinia blakeana

(Hong Kong Orchid Tree, Blake's Butterfly Tree)



Leaf Image

©J.M.Garg 2007

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: No

Heat Tolerant: Yes

Drought Tolerant: Yes

Salt Tolerance: Moderate

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Clay, Loam, Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral

Water Requirements: Moderate

Light Requirements: Full, Part, Shade

Management

Toxity: No

Invasive Potential: No

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: No

Pruning Requirement: Needed, to develop a strong structure

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: Yes

Surface Rooting: No

Life Span: 25-50 years

Diseases: Leaf Spots, Physiological

Edible Parts: None

Pests: Mites, Caterpillars, Borers

Plant Propagations: Cutting, Layering

MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Bark Image



Other Image