

## Bauhinia variegata

### (Orchid-Tree)

Orchid tree is a tropical tree native to Southeast Asia. It is a deciduous tree which loses its leaves before it blooms. It is known for its large, orchid-like flowers which range red to purple to pink. The bloom is followed by large seedpods which create a litter problem. It does best on dry soils in full sun and requires pruning throughout its life.

Bauhinia variegata 'candida' is a fast growing tree with two-lobed deciduous leaves and white flowers.



© Photo by LDEM AUB

Plant Image

#### Landscape Information

**French Name:** Arbre aux orchidées,

**Pronunciation:** bah-HIN-ee-uh vair-ee-eh-GAY-tuh

**Plant Type:** Tree

**Origin:** India, Viet Nam and southeastern China

**Heat Zones:** 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

**Hardiness Zones:** 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

**Uses:** Specimen, Shade, Pollution Tolerant / Urban, Reclamation

#### Size/Shape

**Growth Rate:** Fast

**Tree Shape:** Vase

**Canopy Symmetry:** Irregular

**Canopy Density:** Medium

**Canopy Texture:** Medium

**Height at Maturity:** 5 to 8 m

**Spread at Maturity:** 5 to 8 meters

**Time to Ultimate Height:** 5 to 10 Years

#### Notes

The fruit pods stay persistent on the tree.

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Flower Image

## Botanical Description

### Foliage

**Leaf Arrangement:** Alternate

**Leaf Venation:** Palmate

**Leaf Persistence:** Semi Evergreen

**Leaf Type:** Simple

**Leaf Blade:** 5 - 10 cm

**Leaf Shape:** Orbiculate

**Leaf Margins:** Lobate

**Leaf Textures:** Smooth, Medium

**Leaf Scent:** No Fragrance

**Color(growing season):** Green

**Color(changing season):** Yellow, Brown

### Flower

**Flower Showiness:** True

**Flower Size Range:** 7 - 10

**Flower Type:** Solitary

**Flower Sexuality:** Monoecious (Bisexual)

**Flower Scent:** No Fragrance

**Flower Color:** White

**Seasons:** Spring

### Trunk

**Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage:** Suspected to breakage

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

**Trunk Esthetic Values:** Not Showy

### Fruit

**Fruit Type:** Legume

**Fruit Showiness:** True

**Fruit Size Range:** 10 - 20

**Fruit Colors:** Brown

**Seasons:** Spring

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© Photo by LDEM AUB

Leaf Image

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### Horticulture Management

#### Tolerance

**Frost Tolerant:** No

**Heat Tolerant:** Yes

**Drought Tolerant:** Yes

**Salt Tolerance:** Moderate

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#### Requirements

**Soil Requirements:** Clay, Loam, Sand

**Soil Ph Requirements:** Acidic, Neutral

**Water Requirements:** Low

**Light Requirements:** Full, Part

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#### Management

**Toxity:** No

**Invasive Potential:** Yes

**Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases:** Yes

**Pruning Requirement:** Needed, to develop a strong structure

**Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter:** Yes

**Surface Rooting:** No

**Life Span:** 25-50 years

**Edible Parts:** None

**Pests:** Mites, Caterpillars

**Plant Propagations:** Seed, Cutting, Layering

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## MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Other Image



Bark Image