



GROWING & KNOWING **FUCHSIAS**

WRITTEN BY JOHN MASON AND STAFF OF ACS DISTANCE EDUCATION

CONTENTS

PREFACE	9
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION TO <i>FUCHSIAS</i>	10
The resurgence of a garden classic	10
History of the <i>fuchsia</i>	11
<i>Fuchsia</i> relatives	12
Botanical characteristics	12
Triphylla hybrids	14
Single or double flowers	14
Describing <i>fuchsias</i>	15
Food	16
Australian native <i>fuchsias</i>	16
CHAPTER 2 HOW TO GROW FUCHSIAS	17
Environmental conditions	17
Care & maintenance	18
Watering	18
Possible problems	19
Propagation	19
Different ways to grow <i>fuchsias</i>	20
Descriptive naming	23
CHAPTER 3 THE SPECIES	25
Introduction	25
Classification of <i>fuchsias</i>	25
<i>Fuchsia</i> species	26
<i>F. andrei</i>	26
<i>F. apetala</i> (syn. <i>F. hirstua</i> , <i>F. macrantha</i> , <i>F. unduavensis</i>)	26
<i>F. arborescens</i> (syn. <i>F. syringiflora</i>)	27
<i>F. austromontana</i> (syn. <i>F. serratifolia</i>)	27
<i>F. autumnalis</i>	27
<i>F. ayavacensis</i> (syn. <i>F. ampliata</i>)	27
<i>F. bacillaris</i>	27

F. bohnstedtii	27
F. boliviana.....	28
F. bracelinea.....	28
F. brevilobis	28
F. campii	29
F. compos-portoi.....	29
F. carnea	29
F. cinnabarina (syn. F. reflexa)	29
F. cinerea	29
F. coccinea (syn. F. elegans, F. montana, F. pendula, F. pubescens).....	29
F. colensoi.....	30
F. conica (syn F. magellanica).....	30
F. corallina (syn. F. exoniensis).....	30
F. cordifolia.....	30
F. corymbifolia (syn. F. dependens, F. macropetala, F. volitina).....	30
F. crassistipula.....	30
F. cyrtrandroides (syn F. voluntina).....	30
F. decuda.....	31
F. decussata (syn. F. fontinalis, F. fusea, F. scandens).....	31
F. denticulata (syn. F. serratifolia).....	31
F. dependens (sunset <i>fuchsia</i>).....	31
F. discolor (syn. F. magellanica).....	31
F. encliandra.....	31
F. erecta	31
F. excorticata.....	31
F. fulgens.....	32
F. furfuracea.....	32
F. gehrigeri.....	32
F. glaberrima.....	32
F. glazioviana.....	32
F. globosa	32
F. gracilis (syn F. magellanica var. <i>Macrostema</i>).....	32
F. hartwegii.....	33
F. hatschbachii.....	33
F. hemsleyana.....	33
F. hostii	33
F. inflata.....	33
F. insignis (syn. F. apetala).....	33
F. integrifolia (syn. F. regia).....	33
F. jimenezii.....	33
F. juntasensis.....	33
F. lehmannii.....	34
F. leptopoda.....	34
F. llewelynii.....	34
F. longiflora (syn. F. macrostigma).....	34
F. loxensis (syn. F. apiculata, F. umbrosia).....	34
F. lycioides (syn. F. rosea, F. spinosa).....	34

F. macrantha	34
F. macrophylla	34
F. macrostema	34
F. macrostigma	34
F. magdalenae	35
F. magellanica	35
F. mathewsii	35
F. microphylla	35
F. minima	36
F. minimiflora	36
F. minutiflora	36
F. monstrosa	36
F. nigricans (syn. F. sylvatica)	36
F. orientalis	36
F. pachyrrhiza	36
F. pallescens	36
F. paniculata	36
F. parviflora (syn. F. encliandra, F. thymifolia)	36
F. perscandens	37
F. petiolaris (syn. F. curviflora, F. quinquensis)	37
F. pilaloensis	37
F. pilosa	37
F. polyantha	37
F. pringlei	37
F. pringsheimii	37
F. procumbens	37
F. prostrata (syn. F. procumbens)	38
F. pumila	38
F. putumayensis	38
F. ravenii	38
F. recurva	38
F. reflexa	38
F. regia	38
F. riccartonii	39
F. rosea (syn. F. lycioides)	39
F. sanctae-rosae	39
F. scabriuscula	39
F. scandens (syn. F. decussata)	39
F. scherffiana	39
F. sessiliflora	39
F. serratifolia (syn. F. denticulate)	39
F. simplicicaulis	39
F. speciosa	39
F. spinosa (syn. F. lycioides)	39
F. spectabilis (syn. F. macrostigma)	39
F. splendens	39
F. steyermarkii	40

F. storkii.....	40
F. striolata	40
F. summa.....	40
F. sylvatica (syn. F. atrotuba, F. nigricans).....	40
F. syringiflora (syn. F. arborescens).....	40
F. tasconiflora (syn. F. demticulata).....	40
F. tenella (syn. F. magellanica).....	40
F. thompsonii	40
F. thymifolia (syn. F. alternans, F. ovate, f.Parviflora).....	40
F. tillettiana.....	40
F. triphylla.....	41
F. tuberosa.....	41
F. vargasiana.....	41
F. venusta.....	41
F. verrucosa.....	41
F. vulcanica.....	41
F. woytkowskii.....	41
F. wurdackii.....	41

CHAPTER 4 FUCHSIA CULTIVARS..... **42**

Introduction.....	42
F. 'Adrienne'.....	42
F. 'Annie Earle'.....	43
F. 'Annie M.g.schmidt'.....	44
F. 'Army Nurse'.....	45
F. 'Baby Bright'.....	46
F. 'Barbara'.....	47
F. 'Beacon'.....	48
F. 'Bernisser Hardy'.....	49
F. 'Billy Green'.....	50
F. 'Blacky' (Syn. 'Roesse Blacky').....	51
F. 'Blazeaway'.....	52
F. 'Blue Smoke'.....	53
F. 'Border Queen'.....	54
F. 'Cecile'.....	55
F. 'Chang'.....	56
F. 'Claudia'.....	57
F. 'Cloth Of Gold'.....	58
F. 'Coachman'.....	59
F. Coralle (syn. F. koralle).....	60
F. 'Delta's Sarah'.....	61
F. 'Devonshire'.....	62
F. 'Donald Charles'.....	63
F. 'Dorothy Hanley'.....	64
F. 'Dying Embers'.....	65

F. 'Firecracker'	66
F. 'Garden News'	67
F. 'Harry Gray'	68
F. 'Hawkshead'	69
F. 'Helen Fahey'	70
F. 'Hermiena'	71
F. 'Jack Stanway'	72
F. 'Joan Lilley'	73
F. 'Lady Bacon'	74
F. 'Lambada'	75
F. 'Laura'	76
F. 'Lauren'	77
F. 'Leonora'	78
F. 'Lilian Annetts'	79
F. 'Lord Lonsdale'	80
F. 'Lye's Unique'	81
F. 'Machu Pichu'	82
F. magellanica var. Gracilis 'variegata' (syn. F. magellanica 'variegata')	83
F. 'Mieke Meursing'	84
F. 'Monica May'	85
F. 'Nice 'n' Easy'	86
F. 'Nicki's Findling' (syn. F. nici's findling, F. nicci's findling)	87
F. 'Patio Princess'	88
F. 'Paula Jane'	89
F. 'Pink Ballet Girl'	90
F. 'Pink Fantasia'	91
F. 'Pinto De Blue'	92
F. 'Raf'	93
F. 'Red Jacket'	94
F. 'Rivendell'	95
F. 'Roos Breytenbach' (syn. F. roosbreytenbach)	96
F. 'Rose of Denmark'	97
F. 'Roualeyns White Gold'	98
F. 'Rough Silk'	99
F. 'Salmon Cascade'	100
F. 'Saturnus'	101
F. 'Sealand Prince'	102
F. 'Snowcap'	103
F. 'Thalia'	104
F. 'Thamar'	105
F. 'Time After Time'	106
F. 'Tom Thumb'	107
F. 'Tom West'	108
F. 'Turkish Delight'	109
F. 'Velvet Crush'	110
F. 'Vera Annie'	111
F. 'Voodoo'	112

F. 'Walz Jubelteen'	113
F. 'Wapenveld's Bloei'	114
F. 'Weald View Garnet'	115
F. 'Weald View Ruby'	116
F. 'Whiteknights'	117
F. 'Wigan Peer' (syn. F. 'Wigan pier')	118
F. 'Wilson's Sugar Pink'	119
F. 'Wonder Violet'	120

APPENDIX **121**

Distance learning and online courses	121
E books by John Mason and ACS staff include:	122
Printed books by John Mason	123
Useful contacts	124
ACS Global Partners	124
Social media	124

CREDITS

© **Copyright:** John Mason

Written by

John Mason

Photos:

John Mason

Leonie Mason

Layout:

Stephen Mason

Editorial Assistants:

Gavin Cole

Published by

ACS Distance Education

P.O. Box 2092, Nerang MDC,

Queensland, Australia, 4211

admin@acs.edu.au

www.acsbookshop.com

P O Box 4171, Stourbridge, DY8 2WZ,

United Kingdom

admin@acsedu.co.uk

www.acsebooks.com

ISBN: 978-0-9873176-1-2

The information in this book is derived from a broad cross section of resources (research, reference materials and personal experience) from the authors and editorial assistants in the academic department of ACS Distance Education. It is, to the best of our knowledge, composed as an accurate representation of what is accepted and appropriate information about the subject, at the time of publication.

The authors fully recognise that knowledge is continually changing, and awareness in all areas of study is constantly evolving. As such, we encourage the reader to recognise that nothing they read should ever be considered to be set in stone. They should always strive to broaden their perspective and deepen their understanding of a subject, and before acting upon any information or advice, should always seek to confirm the currency of that information, and the appropriateness to the situation in which they find themselves.

As such, the publisher and author do not accept any liability for actions taken by the reader based upon their reading of this book.

PREFACE

Fuchsias are widely cultivated garden plants across much of the developed world. Their popularity seems to be cyclical, going through periods of greater and lesser popularity, as new generations of gardeners discover their attributes.

You may think of *fuchsias* as plants for a temperate climate; but in reality, many *fuchsia* species originate from tropical and sub tropical regions of the world (though some do come from temperate zones). More often than not though; *fuchsias* originate from high altitudes in the tropics and sub tropics; where temperatures may be far cooler than you might expect in those places.

This book sets out to provide a broad overview of the genus "*Fuchsia*", the species that man has taken from the wild, and a broad cross section of cultivars that have been developed from those species.

For the *fuchsia* enthusiast, it may help to develop a better perspective and fill in some elusive gaps in their understanding of the genus. For the amateur or beginner, it will provide a foundation upon which to build knowledge and understanding as they explore the possibilities of growing *fuchsias* in their own gardens.

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION TO FUCHSIAS

Fuchsias are one of the most popular plants grown thanks to their striking and unmistakable nodding, and often bicoloured, flowers. There are approximately 100 species, mostly from temperate areas, and more than 15,000 hybrids and varieties. They vary from small trees to shrubs and cascading ground covering plants.

The Resurgence of a Garden Classic

Whilst they seemed to lose some popularity towards the end of the twentieth century, these 19th century favourites are once again charming gardeners with their elegant two-tone flowers.

Most are frost sensitive, but can be grown in colder climates if protected from extreme cold or frost by mulching the crown of the plant.

High temperatures can also be a problem and for this reason shade is very important, even in cooler areas,

especially during the summer.

It is common for *fuchsias* to be grown in beds under tall trees, in a shade-house or in hanging baskets in a shaded area such as hanging from a pergola beside a house. Their blooms can be shown off beautifully this way. *Fuchsias* will also grow well along the shaded side of a house or wall.

The name *fuchsia* is used both as a scientific and common name in most places. Occasionally other common names have been used including “Ladies Eardrops” to refer to all *fuchsias*, or terms such as “Honeysuckle *Fuchsia*” to refer to a particular species.



The genus *Gaura* is another commonly grown garden plant belonging to the family “Onagraceae”

History of the *Fuchsia*

The name *Fuchsia* was given to these plants to honour a 16th century botanist called Dr Fuchs who is regarded as one of the founding fathers of botany. The discovery of the plant itself is attributed to Dom Charles Plumier, a French scientist, in 1696 who named it after Fuchs. *Fuchsia* plants are mostly indigenous to Central and South America, with some species occurring naturally in parts of the Pacific.

The first detailed description of a *fuchsia* was published in 1703 and the first *fuchsias* were introduced to European cultivation in the 1780's. These first introductions were *F. magellanica* and *F. coccinea*. Other species including *F. arborescens*, *F. fulgens* and *F. microphylla* were introduced not long after.

Fuchsia hybrids were first reported to be bred in 1825 (between *F. arborescens*, *F. coccinea* and *F. macrostemma*). *Fuchsias* are today one of the most hybridised genera in the horticultural world.

Many of the *Fuchsia* species are native to cloud forests in the Andes, and adapt well to temperate gardens around the world. Most of those from the tropics will occur naturally at higher altitudes in wet forests. Some are more suited to subtropical or cooler temperate areas than others; but most are grown in places where summer humidity does not get excessive and winter frosts are not extreme.

The majority of cultivated *Fuchsias* tolerate temperatures to around freezing point, and many species can withstand

lower temperatures than this under certain conditions. Some will have foliage damaged by frost or cold, but the root system can remain unaffected and the plant can regenerate even after the top has been devastated. Some are deciduous and may withstand more extreme cold after the leaves have dropped.



The natural habitat of many *fuchsia* species is in humid and often cool, high altitude forests of tropical central and South America

Fuchsia Relatives

Fuchsias belong to the family “Onagraceae”; a broad group of plants sometimes given the common name “willow herb family”.

There are 21 genera, and well over 600 species, in this family which come from both temperate and tropical regions. Most are perennial herbs or small shrubs. Some are larger shrubs and trees.

More than 20% of the species in the family are *Fuchsias*.

Other genera in this family are *Epilobium*, *Oenothera*, *Clarkia*, *Gauera*, *Ludwigia*, *Lopezia* and *Circaea*.

Leaves of all these genera are normally simple (not divided). Flowers commonly have four petals, stamens are normally 4 + 4, there can be one or more stigmas and the ovary is inferior. Fruits are normally a loculicidal capsule and can sometimes be a berry or nut.



Oenothera (Evening Primrose, also belongs to the family “*Onagraceae*”

Botanical Characteristics

Leaves:

- Are simple in shape
- Borne in opposite, alternate or whorled arrangement on stems.



A typical *F. triphylla* hybrid *fuchsia*: long tubular flower and three leaves emerging at the same position along the length of the stem.

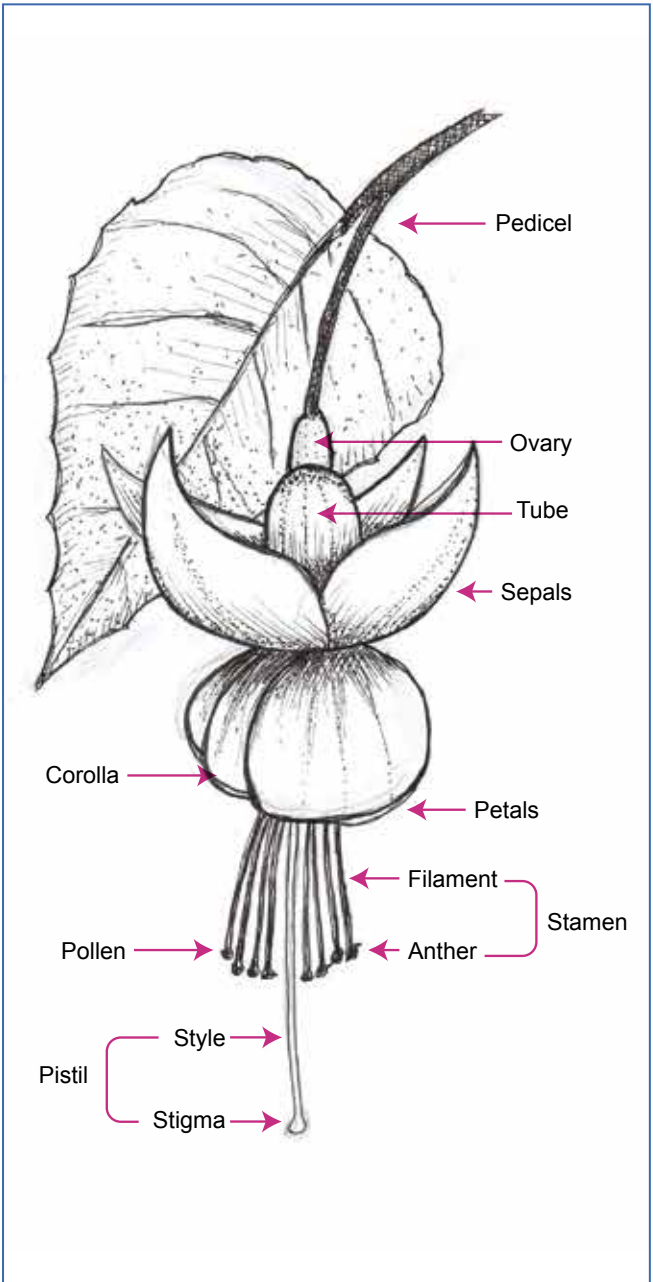
Flowers:

- Are commonly showy in shades of red, purple or white.
- Are often borne in multiple colours on the same flower.
- May have petals and sepals which are thickish or fleshy

- Position on stem can be axillary or in terminal bunches (panicles or racemes)
- Calyx tube is campanulate or tubular
- Have four sepals, four petals (normally) - eight stamens
- Have a long style with inferior ovary at the base.
- The fruit is a berry.



This is a single flower because it only has four petals.



Parts of a *fuchsia* flower