

What's Blooming—November 2020



Annatto (*Bixa orellana*) is flowering east of the Edison Caretaker's House. Sometimes called "lipstick plant," the seeds are crushed to make a natural food coloring. Annatto is why cheddar cheese is orange!



Yellow Ixora
Ixora coccinea



Double Hibiscus
Hibiscus rosa-sinensis



Gamboge
Garcinia xanthochymus



Chalice Vine
Solandra maxima



Kahili Ginger
Hedychium gardnerianum



Geiger Tree
Cordia sebestena

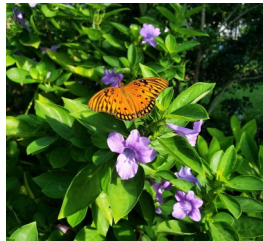
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African Tulip Tree
Spathodea campanulata



Agave
Agave americana



Philippine Violet
Barleria cristata



Striped Philippine Violet
Barleria cristata 'Lavender Lace'



Fountain Clerodendrum
Clerodendrum minahassae



Thai Powderpuff
Combretum constrictum



Allamanda
'Cherries Jubilee'
Allamanda cathartica



Downy Jasmine
Jasminum multiflorum

Keep an eye on the agave flowering at the south end of Orchid Lane. It only flowers once in its life, but when it does it sends a flower spike soaring to heights of up to 20' feet tall!

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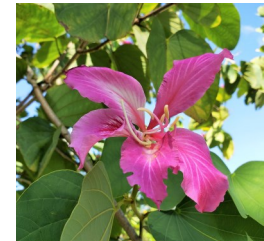
Dutchman's Pipe
Aristolochia macrophylla



Silk Floss Tree
Ceiba speciosa



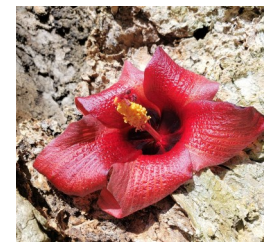
Ylang Ylang Tree
Cananga odorata



Hong Kong Orchid Tree
Bauhinia blakeana



Pink Wild Pear
Dombeya burgesiae



Blue Mahoe Tree
Hibiscus elatus



The Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow plant (*Brunfelsia grandiflora*) is a November highlight next to the pergola that separates the Main House and Guest House.

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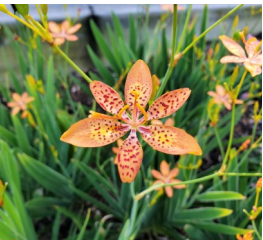
Crown of thorns (*Euphorbia milii*) blooms best as the colder weather sets in. This Madagascar native drew the attention of Thomas Edison thanks to its milky sap that contains lots of natural latex!



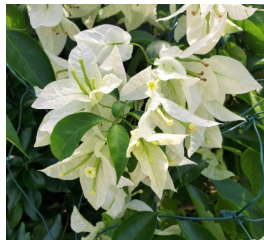
Powderpuff
Calliandra haematocephala



Red Shrimp Plant
Justicia brandegeana



Blackberry Lily
Iris domestica



Bougainvillea 'Miss Alice'
Bougainvillea glabra

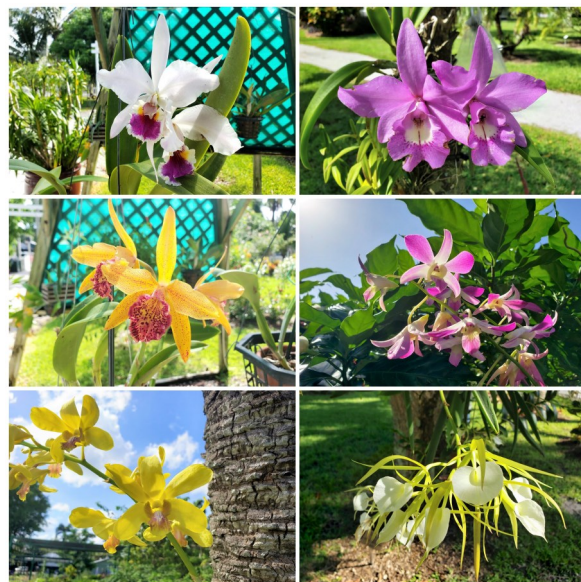


Sleepy Hibiscus
Malva viscosa

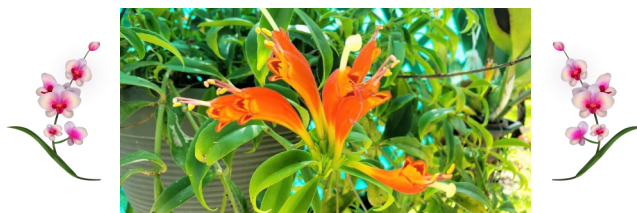


Rose
Rosa spp.

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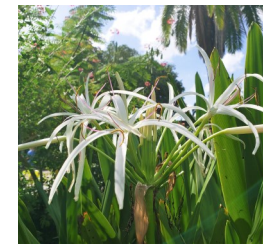
Here's a selection of the orchids that are blooming around the estates this month. Most are attached directly to tree trunks—especially along Orchid Lane—but be sure to check out the orchid misting station near security to find some rather unusual varieties of Mina Edison's favorite flower!



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Yellow Elder
Tecoma stans



Crinum Lily
Crinum asiaticum



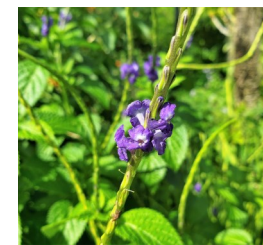
Firebush
Hamelia patens



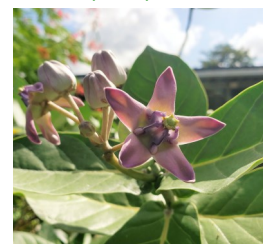
Tropical Lilac
Cornutia grandifolia



Dwarf Poinciana
Caesalpinia pulcherrima



Blue Porterweed
Stachytarpheta jamaicensis



Giant Milkweed
Calotropis gigantea



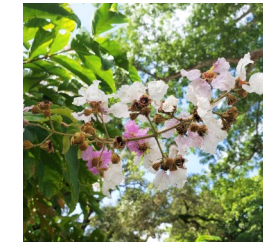
Blue Pea Vine
Clitoria ternatea

The plants pictured above are located in the butterfly garden just north of the museum. Butterflies are active all year in Southwest Florida since they still have plenty of food!

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Chenille Plant
Acalypha hispida



Siamese Crape Myrtle
Lagerstroemia siamica



Rubber Vine
Cryptostegia sp.



Monkey Brush
Combretum rotundifolium



Wild Allamanda
Urechites lutea



Bromeliad
Bromeliad spp.



Bees aren't the only pollinator insects. Goldenrod (*Solidago spp.*) is blooming in the rubber research beds. Find it and the plants above outside of Edison's Lab.