

Comparison of Similar Looking Plants

Gardenia carinata, *Gardenia mutabilis* and *Gardenia tubifera*



Scientific name: *Gardenia carinata*
Common name: Golden Gardenia
Family name: Rubiaceae
Origin: Thailand, Peninsular Malaysia










Scientific name: *Gardenia mutabilis*
Common name: Thai Gardenia
Family name: Rubiaceae
Origin: South Philippines to Maluku (Indonesia)

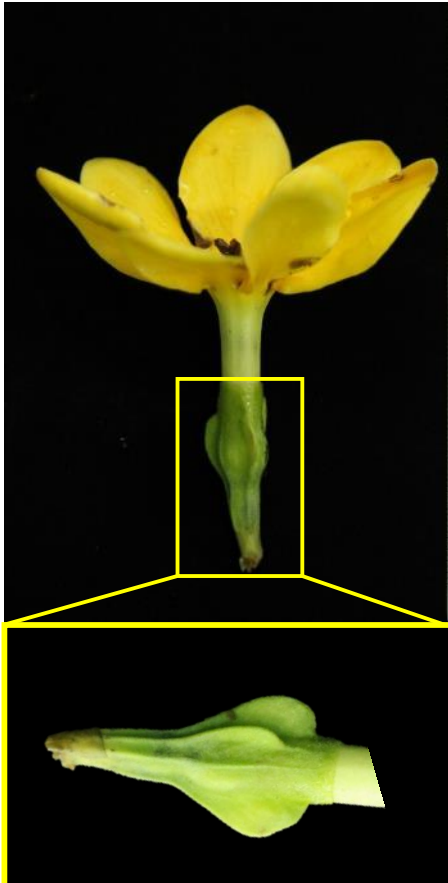

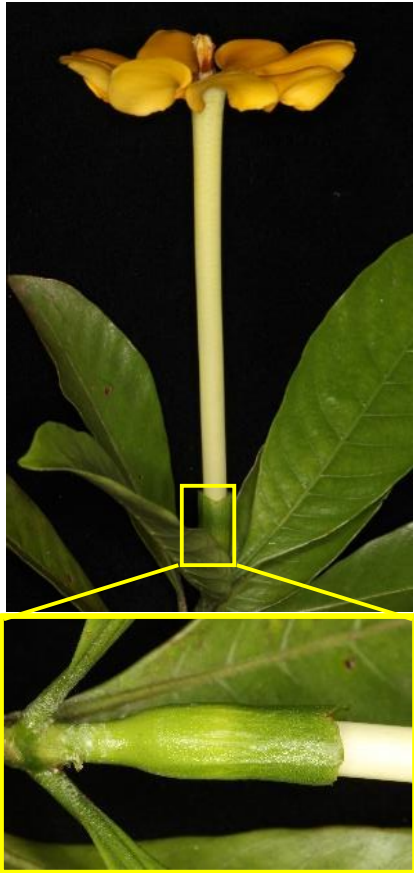


Scientific name: *Gardenia tubifera*
Common name: Kula Gardenia
Family name: Rubiaceae
Origin: Indo-China to West Malesia, native to Singapore

Character comparison

	<i>Gardenia carinata</i>	<i>Gardenia mutabilis</i>	<i>Gardenia tubifera</i>
Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small tree to 15 m tall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shrub or small tree, up to 5 m tall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small tree, often 8-15 m tall 
Foliage	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p><i>G. carinata</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaves elliptic to obovate with prominent venation, up to 30 cm long • Leaf base attenuate • Upper surface smooth, underneath hairy </div> <div style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p><i>G. mutabilis</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaves elliptic, 5-15 cm long • Leaf base cuneate • Smooth on both sides </div> <div style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <p><i>G. tubifera</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaves obovate to oblanceolate, 12-16 cm long • Leaf base attenuate • Smooth on both sides </div> <div style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">  </div> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  15 cm </div>		

Character comparison

	<i>Gardenia carinata</i>	<i>Gardenia mutabilis</i>	<i>Gardenia tubifera</i>
Flower	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6-8 lobes • Corolla tube about 5 cm long • Calyx tube 5 lobed, middle marked with 5 strong keels, about 2.5 cm long 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7-8 lobes • Corolla tube about 6-10 cm long, slender • Calyx tube slightly ridged, tightly sheathing the corolla tube, 0.6-1.7 cm long 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6-9 lobes • Corolla tube variable in length, 2.5-14 cm long • Calyx tube smooth, loosely sheathing the corolla tube, truncate, 0.8-3.5 cm long
	 <p>The image shows a yellow flower of <i>Gardenia carinata</i> with a green calyx tube. A yellow box highlights the calyx tube, which is magnified in the bottom inset. The calyx tube is 5-lobed with prominent keels.</p>	 <p>The image shows a yellow flower of <i>Gardenia mutabilis</i> with a long, slender corolla tube and a green calyx tube. A yellow box highlights the calyx tube, which is magnified in the bottom inset. The calyx tube is tightly sheathing the corolla tube.</p>	 <p>The image shows a yellow flower of <i>Gardenia tubifera</i> with a long, slender corolla tube and a green calyx tube. A yellow box highlights the calyx tube, which is magnified in the bottom inset. The calyx tube is loosely sheathing the corolla tube.</p>

References

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- Wong, K.M. (1982). Notes on Gardenia and Acranthera (Rubiaceae) from Pennisular Malaysia, Gardens Bulletin Vol 35 Part 1: 21-31.
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