

It's that time of year! Sweet-smelling gardenia (Gardenia jasminoides) is starting to bloom in Southwest Florida. You'll find several gardenia plants near the entrance to the Moonlight Garden.



Crown of thorns (Euphorbia milii) was considered by Thomas Edison a promising potential source of domestic natural rubber.





Amaryllis grow from bulbs underground, so they are commonly called lilies, even though they are only distantly related to a true lily. These specimens are popping up east of the Edison Caretaker's House.



Uncarina *Uncarina grandidieri*



Pereskia *Pereskia grandiflora*



Nasturtium *Tropaeolum majus*



Monkey Brush
Combretum rotundifolium



Sunflower *Helianthus sp.*



Bromeliad *Bromeliad spp.*



Madagascar Rubber Vine (Cryptostegia madagascariensis) is blooming in the research beds south of the Banyan Tree. Uncarina and Pereskia are in the nearby succulent garden.



The amazing ylang ylang tree (Cananga odorata) is firing up south of Edison's Study.



Hibiscus Hibiscus spp.



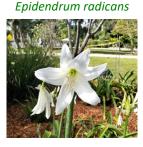
Pink Orchid Tree
Bauhinia monandra



Crape Jasmine Tabernaemontana divaricata



Geiger TreeCordia sebestena



Ground Orchid

St. Christopher Lily *Crinum jagus*





Bush Allamanda



Blue Plumbago Plumbago auriculata



Blue Porterweed

Jatropha

Jatropha integerrima

Yesterday, Today, and **Tomorrow** Brunfelsia grandiflora



Confederate Jasmine

Trachelodpermum

jasminoides

The Bougainvillea along Bougainvillea Gate is fading this month, but some interesting varieties of this Edison favorite plant are still blooming hard near the Guest House.



What's Blooming—April 2021

Perhaps the most impressive flower in the garden right now belongs to the shaving brush tree (Pseudobombax ellipticum)! This white cultivar is a memorial tree dedicated to beloved volunteer Gary Bishop. There is also a red cultivar behind the Car Exhibit.



Dwarf Poinciana Caesalpinia pulcherrima



Giant Milkweed Calotropis gigantea



Panama Rose Rondeletia stigosa



Firebush Hamelia patens



Crinum Lily Crinum asiaticum



Shell Ginger Alpinia zerumbet



Rudbeckia hybrid Rudbeckia sp.



Oleander (Nerium oleander) has been cultivated around the Mediterranean since



Tahitian Gardenia Gardenia taitensis



Spider Orchid Orchid flos-aeris



Queen's Wreath Petrea volubilis



ancient Greece. There are some mature specimens blooming on the Ford Estate.



Frangipani (Plumeria spp.) are flowering for the first time since their winter dormancy. Typically, the yellow varieties bloom first, followed by the pink, and the red. These beautiful flowers hold significance for cultures all over the world, from ancient Mesoamerica, to Polynesia, India, and even Africa. Look for this specimen near the **Security Station.**



Adam's Apple Plant Tabernaemontana crassa



Rose Allamanda Strophanthus gratus



Chalice Vine Solandra maxima



Rose Rosa spp.