

Cuba was a rich source of tropical plants.

[Click here for a list of plants seen on our Cuba trip.](#)



Crab's eyes
Abrus precatorius

Crab's eyes' seeds
contain abrin, a potent
plant toxin.



Grace and Robbie pretending
to sample crab's eyes.



Coral vine
Antigonon leptopus



Mexican prickly poppy
Argemone mexicana



Neem
Azadirachta indica

Neem was grown as a windbreak tree. It is the source of a common organic insecticide.



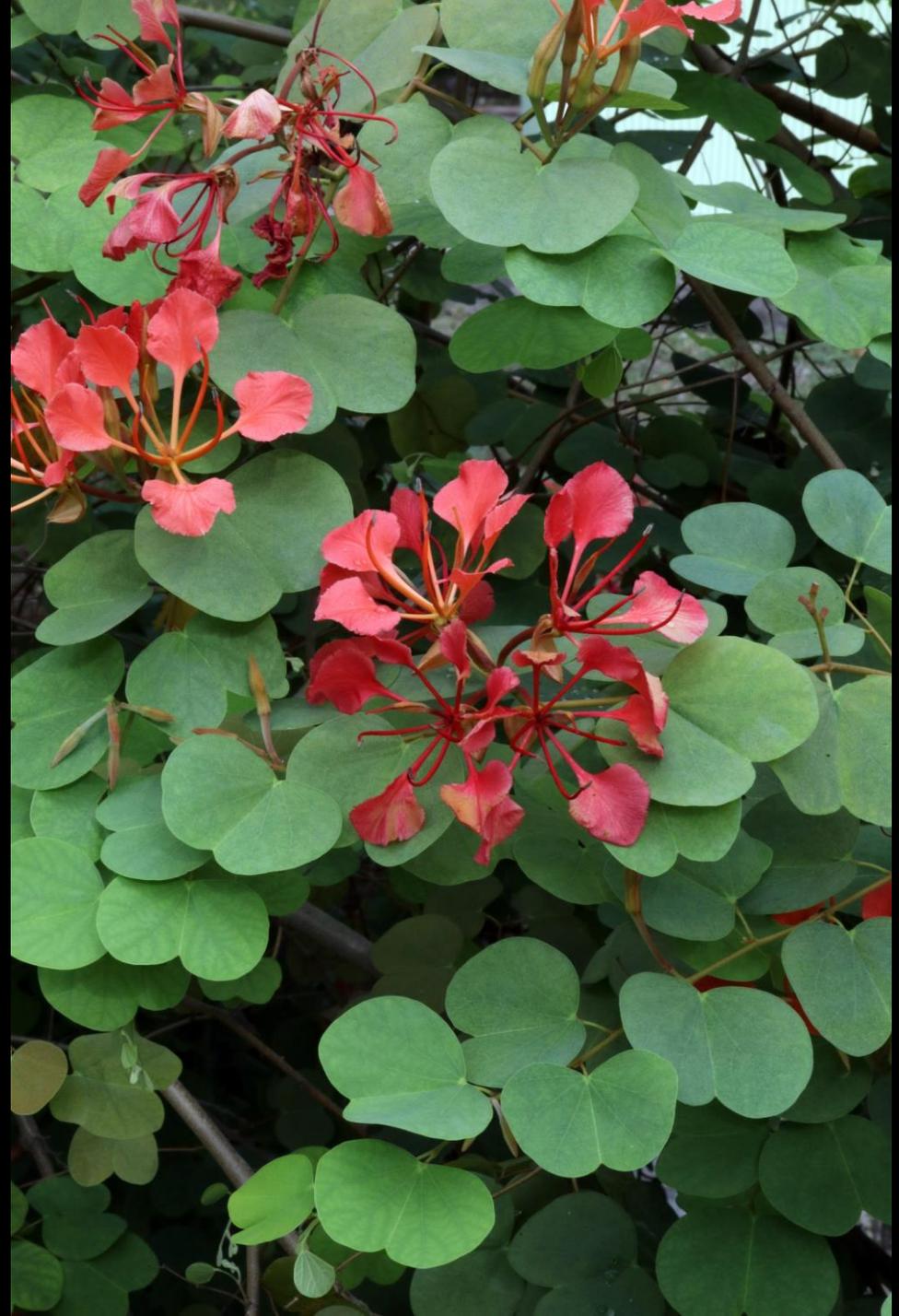
Fish poison tree or
box fruit
Barringtonia asiatica

Box fruit is buoyant and is dispersed by floating in water. The ground seeds have been used to stun fish as a way to easily capture them.



Orchid tree
Bauhinia galpinii

Bauhinia is named after the Bauhin brothers, Caspar and Jean botanists from the 1500s because the bifid leaves.



Pink bauhinia
Bauhinia monandra



Annatto
Bixa orellana



Annatto seeds are used as a natural red dye and a food coloring additive.



Pink powderpuff
Calliandra surinamensis



Santa Maria
Calophyllum antillanum

Santa Maria is a salt tolerant tree.
The hard wood is used for construction.



Jamaican caper
Capparis cynophallophora



Be-still tree
Cascabela thevetia

Although a common
ornamental in semitropical
landscapes, the common name
refers to the poisonous
nature of the plant.



Golden showers
Cassia fistula



Pink showers
Cassia grandis



Peruvian apple cactus



Cereus repandus (peruviensis)



Autograph tree
(*Clusia rosea*)

Autograph tree has a strangler life cycle. Autograph tree gets its common name from the way it retains writing that are scratched into the leaf.



Autograph tree has a strangler plant.



Sombreiro (*Clitoria fairchildiana*)



Sea grape
Coccoloba uvifera



Sea grape
Coccoloba uvifera

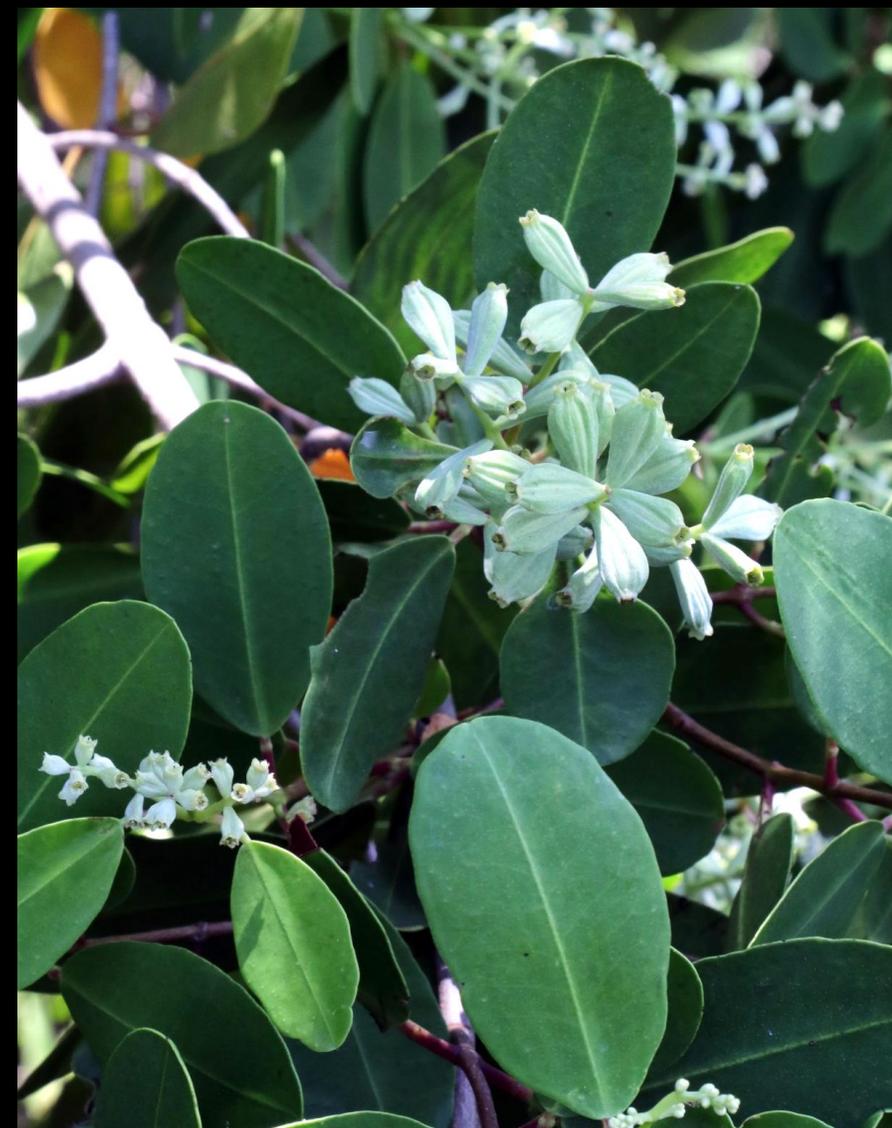


Buttonwood
Conocarpus erectus

Buttonwood is
one of the
mangrove species
along the coast.



White mangrove (*Laguncularia racemosa*) is another of the coastal mangroves native to Cuba.



Cordia

Cordia subcordata



Sago palm
Cycas revoluta





Royal poinciana

Delonix regia

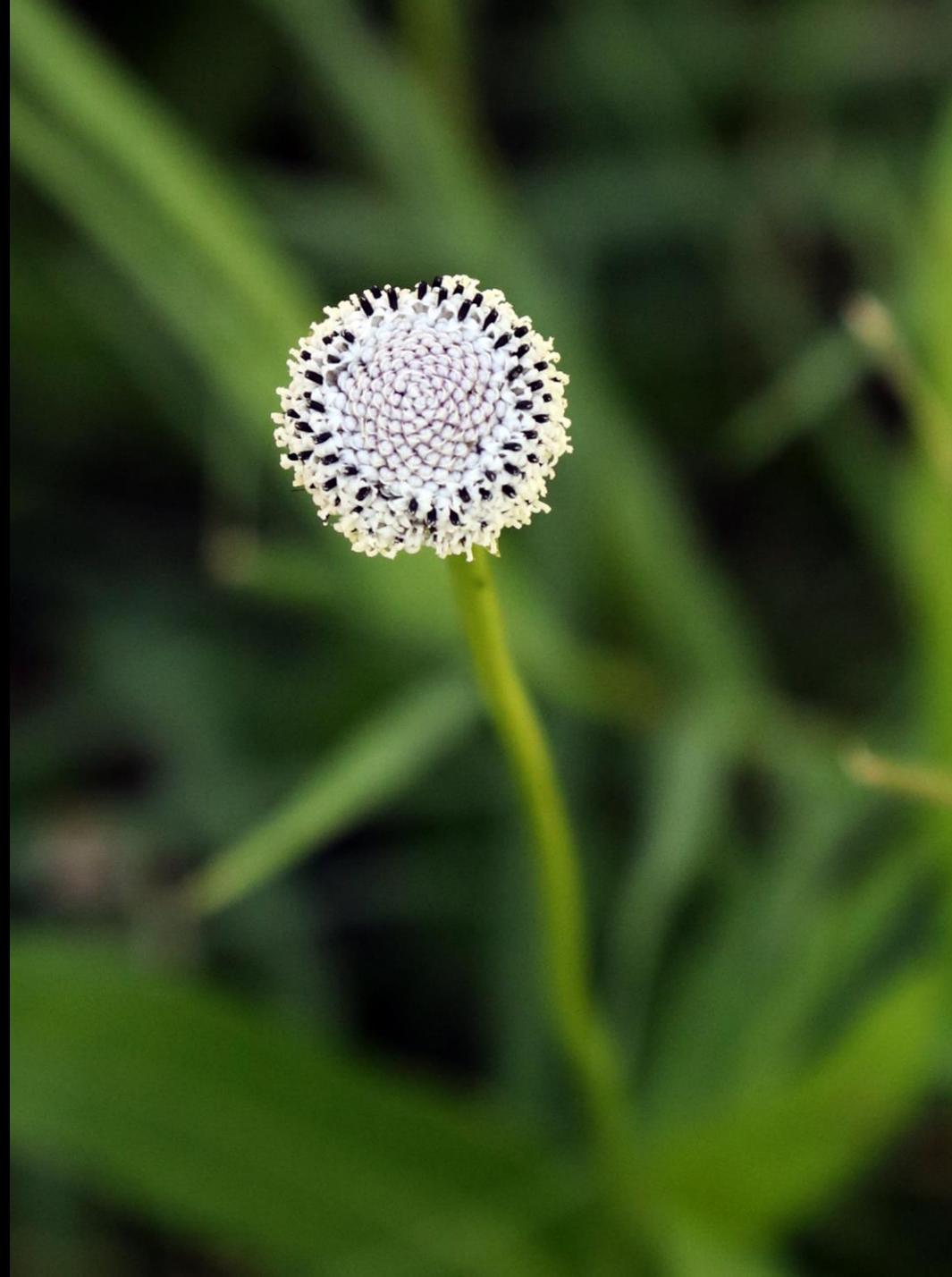
Royal poinciana
Delonix regia



Royal Poinciana
Delonix regia



Pipewort
Eriocaulon





Bay fig *Ficus macrocarpa*



Beach hibiscus
(*Hibiscus tiliaceus*)

Beach hibiscus flowers turn from
yellow to red following pollination.



Gold coast jasmine
Jasminum dichotomum



Leea rubra



Sabicu
Lysiloma sabicu





Peltophorum



Variegated skrewpine
Pandanus tectorius

Screwpine
produces
spines on its
proproots.



Dwarf variegated skrewpine
Pandanus baptistii



Rangoon creeper
Quisqualis indica

Rangoon creeper
produces flowers
that change color
after pollination.



Kapok
Ceiba pentandra

Kapok is a large tree
native to Cuba.



Royal palm
Roystonea regia

Royal palm is grown
around the world as
an ornamental palm.

It is native to Cuba.



Mountain palm (*Gaussia princeps*) and kapok (*Ceiba pentandra*) growing on a hillside near Vinales Valley.

Mountain palm is endemic to Cuba.



Bowstring hemp

Sansevieria hyacinthoides



Octopus tree
Shefflera actinophylla



Sesuvium microphyllum



Red snakeweed
Stachytarpheta mutabilis



African tuliptree
Spathodea campanulata



West Indian mahogany
Swietenia mahagoni



Pink Trumpet tree
Tabebuia heterophylla



Pink Trumpet tree
Tabebuia heterophylla subsp. *pallida*



Florida thatch plant
Thrinax parviflora



Florida thatch plant

Thrinax parviflora



Small flower chastetree
Vitex parviflora

