What's Blooming—June 2020





Sweet Begonia Begonia odorata





Mussaenda

Mussaenda spp.

Needle Flower Augusta rivalis



Crape Jasmine Tabernaemontana divaricata



Queen's Wreath Petrea volubilis



Pinwheel Jasmine

Dragon Wing Begonia Begonia 'Dragon Wing'

The plants pictured above can be found around Edison's study and Mina's moonlight garden. Look out for the two varieties of *Mussaenda* by either entrance to this small formal garden.

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Allamanda is a genus

of flowering plants in the family Apocynaceae. These plants contain white latex, which Thomas Edison experimented with in a bid to produce a domestic source of natural rubber. Most varieties have yellow flowers. The 'cherries jubilee' cultivar (above) along orchid lane has pink flowers.



Left to right: Allamanda cathartica 'compacta,' Allamanda cathartica, and Allamanda schottii



Lychee Bougainvillea spp. Litchi chinensis

Rubber Vine

Cryptostegia

madagascariensis



Yellow Ixora Ixora coccinea

What's Blooming—June 2020



Hibiscus have large, solitary flowers that come in many colors. They usually have five petals, and can be identified by their conspicuous stamensthe male part of the flower. We planted a row of these tropical beauties along the main allée near the security station. The plants below are growing between there and the Edison Caretaker's House.



Sacred Burmese Lily Crinum procerum



Golden Champaca Michelia champaca



Orange River Crinum Crinum bulbispermum



Bridal Bouquet Plumeria pudica









June is officially the month of the *Apocynaceae* as frangipani (*Plumeria spp.*), another member of this latex-bearing family, comes into full flush. These wonderfully scented flowers make the best Hawaiian leis, and they have been bred into an array of fantastic cultivars. We are lucky enough to be hosting a collection of rare frangipani which are located across from the Banyan Refreshment Area on the map.



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Golden Shower tree (*Cassia fistula*), (*above*) and Royal Poinciana (*Delonix regia*), (*below*) are two of the most spectacular flowering trees of early summer. We have several of each on the grounds. Look out for them and the flowering trees pictured below this month.





Queen's Crape MyrtleCrape MyrtleLagerstroemia speciosaLagerstroemia indica



Magnolia 'Little Gem' Magnolia grandiflora **Vera Wood** Bulnesia arborea

What's Blooming—June 2020





Pentas

Pentas lanceolata

Firebush

Hamelia patens

Oleander Nerium oleander



Rangoon Creeper Quisqualis indica



Here are just a few of the many orchids in bloom at The Estates in June. If you're hunting for them, be sure to look all around the trunks of the trees, as many are attached directly to the bark just like Mina used to do along Orchid Lane. The plants at the top are examples of what's blooming on the Ford property.

What's Blooming—June 2020



June marks the beginning of Mango season in Southwest Florida. We're all excited as many of our favorite trees have now made a full recovery from Hurricane Irma, which struck in 2017. The plants pictured below are blooming around the Garden Shoppe and the nursery.





Blanket Flower

Blue Pea Vine Clitoria ternatea





Chinese Hat Plant Holmskioldia tettenss





Cornutia grandifolia

Glow Vine Saritaea magnifica **Strawberry Tree** *Mutingia calabura*