

# Plants of Rosaceae to go on display at Hong Kong Park (with photos)

Plants of Rosaceae are well known for their variety and wide range of uses. Members of the public will have a chance to take a closer look at their different species at a thematic exhibition of plants of Rosaceae to be held from December 1 (Wednesday) at the Forsgate Conservatory in Hong Kong Park under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department.

The family of Rosaceae comprises more than 3 300 species, including evergreen and deciduous trees, shrubs and herbs. A rich variety of about 600 plants of Rosaceae will be showcased at the upcoming thematic exhibition, including Rugosa Rose, China Rose, Loquat, Peach and Hong Kong Hawthorn, etc.

Rugosa Rose, typically with thick leaves that grow with wrinkled surfaces and concave veins, is densely covered by prickles on its stems while the easily confused China Rose, with smooth and even leaf surfaces, comes with sparse prickles on its stems.

With a furry peel and colours ranging from pale yellow to orange-yellow, the fruits of Loquat are either round, oval or obovate. Their flesh is tender and juicy, bringing a unique taste. The Chinese name for Loquat derives from its similar shape with the musical instrument "pipa".

Peach, with lanceolate and serrulate leaves, blooms charmingly in beautiful colours of white, red and pink in spring.

Hong Kong Hawthorn, also known as "spring flower" in Chinese, has oblong leaves with serrulate margins. The thick and glossy leaves display distinct and reticulate veins on the lower surface. Its elegance makes Hong Kong Hawthorn a common pick for bonsai.

In addition to the presentation of over 50 species of Rosaceae, display boards will also be set up to introduce their uses and symbolic meanings. Park visitors are invited to visit the exhibition, which will be open to the public free of charge from 9am to 5pm daily from December 1 to January 9, 2022, at the Forsgate Conservatory of Hong Kong Park, 19 Cotton Tree Drive, Central.

