



## INTRODUCTION OF ORNAMENTAL PLANTS

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**Abstract:** Ornamental plants are a topic that has gained significant attention in recent years, as more and more people are turning to gardening and landscaping as a way to enhance the beauty of their surroundings. Ornamental plants are a diverse group of plants that are grown for their decorative value, rather than for their practical uses such as food or medicine. These plants come in a wide range of shapes, sizes, colors, and textures, making them a versatile and popular choice for adding visual interest to gardens, parks, and other outdoor spaces.

**Keywords:** economic value, landscapes, effects, ornamental plants, gardens, person's emotions

**Introduction:** Ornamental plants are plants that are grown for decorative purposes in gardens and landscape design projects, as house plants, for cut flowers, and specimen display. The cultivation of these plants is with the aim of creating an attractive, joyful, and pleasurable looking environment while at the same time it should be easy and manageable to maintain the landscape. This is one of the reasons why the demand for ornamental plants, as in comparison to plants in other horticultural sectors, is generally high and the price of some species is rather expensive.

There is an increasing use of ornamental plants in the landscape of houses, public and commercial buildings, urban parks, and even road median strips. Recognizing this, other than aesthetic value, ornamental plants cause the environment to be more conducive to human habitations. More and more people are keen to have a mini landscape in their homes and offices. Therefore, the demand for ornamental plants is expected to keep on increasing.

### Importance of Ornamental Plants

The growing of ornamental plants has many purposes, and one of the leading purposes is for use in landscaping. Ornamental plants are a staple of landscape and gardening. These plants lend colors, fragrance, or texture to outdoor living spaces. They can be used to create a boundary or contrast within a specific area in the garden. Some may be grown around a specific theme of a garden. For example, a Japanese-themed garden would grow cherry blossoms, bonsai trees, and colors specific to the seasons in Japan. Some flowering plants can also be attractants for garden wildlife. In a more urban environment, public parks and private gardens aren't the only places to see some forms of ornamental plants. For example, some large flowering trees or shrubs are needed to improve or beautify barren land. These plants are used in civic planting to improve living conditions and are beneficial to a community. Tree planting programs can improve air quality and aesthetic values. The beautification of public and private gardens also provides a sense of accomplishment and pride for the owner once

they have seen the plants grow and thrive. In addition to that, growing ornamental plants can be a pastime for hobbyists and collectors who like to grow specific varieties of plants.

Ornamental plants are normally used for decorative purposes, either indoors or outdoors. An ornamental plant is grown for its attractive appearance. Ornamental plants are grown for decorative purposes in gardens and landscape design projects, as houseplants, cut flowers, and specimen displays. The cultivation of ornamental plants was not a predominant occupation of the early settlers, but they took much interest in developing the environment around them. The development of new varieties of plants over the years to match our tropical climate has led to an increase in growing ornamental plants. Formerly, before the scientific classification of plants, many flowers were known to medicine, though not exclusively so, and employed as remedies in the form of simples. But the most important and special relation of the flower is with human feelings. It has always been an object of human admiration. A lot of poetic imagery and language includes the flower, and it is almost impossible to think of any festive occasions or social gatherings that should take place in a completely nature less environment. And what is the role of parks that are meant for the people without ornamental plants? In these simple everyday forms of the flower, it has shown that it can brighten the life of human toil, if only a small section of his leisure.

### **Types of Ornamental Plants**

3) According to habit, plants can be classified as herbs, shrubs, and trees. Herbs are those plants that do not have a persistent woody stem above the ground and generally have an unbranched stem. They may be annual or perennial. Shrubs are small to medium-sized woody plants that have many branches, often starting near the base of the main stem.

2) According to season, plants can be classified as spring season flowering plants, summer season flowering plants, autumn season flowering plants, and winter season flowering plants. Each type of plant will have a blooming period during their respective season.

1) According to climate, plants can be classified as hardy and half hardy. Hardy plants are capable of surviving unfavorable conditions such as cold, heat, frost, drought, etc., and can be grown throughout the year in any part of the country. Half-hardy plants are those that are not able to withstand unfavorable conditions and do not grow well during extreme climatic conditions. These are best grown during favorable conditions and are grown as annuals and biennials.

There are various types of ornamental plants available on the market, but garden plants are generally classified according to climate, season, habit, duration, and special characters.

The addition of the aesthetic value of a plant goes a long way in making the environment more enjoyable. An excellent example of this is the impact of flowers on most people. How many times have you seen a parking lot with no landscaping and felt it looked rather drab and depressing? Then, on the other hand, how did you feel when you entered a park blooming with flowers, or walked down a street lined with trees? Most people prefer the environment with plants to the ones without. Gardens can be magical places for reflection and relaxation. The mere addition of a small garden or a few flowering houseplants can do wonders to increase the livability of an area. Whether in a private home, a public park, or a retirement village, people find peace and a chance to connect with nature in a garden. In areas

of the world affected by war, natural disaster, or poverty, replanting and the revitalization of gardens and farms has been a way to heal the human spirit.

The mere presence of a plant can have a real effect on a person's emotional health. Patients in hospital rooms with plants and flowers have often reported a more positive experience and a quicker recovery. The practice of horticulture therapy is a growing discipline with empirical data to support the anecdotal claims of improved mental health through gardening and plant care. This mental healing complements the physical healing provided by medicines. So, it is clear that ornamental plants have a great ability to better the mental health and overall enjoyment of life for people.

### **Aesthetic Value**

Aesthetic value refers to the quality of an object that is based on pure sensory pleasure rather than utilitarian function. Aesthetic plants would act similar to the way as when a feeling arises when you see your favorite painting or piece of furniture. People have different tastes in the factor of what is beautiful, and there is no right or wrong in selecting for plants to suit a garden, as long as they are disease-free and hold no potential harm to the environment. A visually attractive garden enriched with plants such as these is a simple way of enhancing the quality of one's life. 94 million Americans (33% of all U.S. households) participate in home gardening, which reflects the extent of the desire to improve gardens and personal landscapes. This is mainly to provide a nice setting and comfortable place to relax. Flowers are the most common plant selected for just adding color to the garden. They are approximated to have been 400,000 species of flowering plants. As flowers are usually seasonal, ranging from bi-weekly to annually, they add a sort of change to the garden constantly. This would give a feeling similar to that of buying new ornaments to replace old ones. Trees give a grand and aged appearance to a garden. With there being such a vast species of tree, each would give a different feeling to the atmosphere. An example would be having a Cherry Blossom in comparison to a Magnolia, both would flower, but one would bring a Japanese feel, while the other would bring southern states feel to a landscape. Bringing meaning and cultural feel to the environment is also seen as a reason to improve a landscape. An ethnic group may have a festival or celebration, which is usually associated with a clean and decorated place. The persons responsible for gardening will often reflect the celebration in the style of the garden to provide the right atmosphere. This could range from anything from creating a fake jungle to just mowing a pattern in the grass. In essence, all these are reasons to simply make the environment look more appealing.

### **Environmental Benefits**

In the present context, it has become essential that we try to salvage whatever we can of our natural environment, disregarding the fact that a substantial portion of our natural resources have been depleted and destroyed. The maintenance of a natural and healthy environment has come to be a matter of grave concern for the citizens of the earth. It is also established that we have a moral obligation to return to posterity an environment that is at least as healthy and pleasant as it was when we received it. Realizing the gravity of the situation, several organizations, agencies, clubs, and individuals have been making concerted efforts to save what is left of the natural environment and restore what has been lost. And it is in this context that ornamental plants have become significant as a valuable resource in the effort to protect and enhance the quality of the environment. It is common knowledge that environmental degradation is proportional to population growth. And since man cannot do

without plants, providing for the survival of humans, animals, and protection from the forces of nature, it becomes essential that man turns to ornamentals, the least utilized form of plant life, as a means to counter environmental degradation.

The potential of ornamental plants in saving the environment is quite substantial, although it has not been fully realized. And for many reasons, this is a field where benefits are slow in being obtained. In recent years, the ornamental horticulture industry has undergone many dramatic changes due to various economic and public forces. But the greatest changes have been in the way the industry relates to the environment with respect to ecological concerns. This has been evidenced by the resurgence towards the use of native species, water-efficient landscaping, and the use of landscape architects and designers who are knowledgeable in the plant sciences. Now an understanding of the environment has led to a greater understanding of the detrimental effects that urbanization has had upon the land, particularly in degradation of natural habitats in the building of residential or commercial precincts, roads, recreation areas, or public buildings.

### **Economic Significance**

The skills required for these jobs can be easily acquired like landscaping, and the start-up costs are low and the income can be substantial. This gives great mobility for changing jobs and moving into this industry and will help boost the future economy.

Ornamental plants can be a source of income and there are many people that have started nurseries and farms to produce these plants. This industry can be divided into 3 main sectors:

1. Primary Producers - These are the people who cultivate and grow ornamental plants.
2. Landscape Professionals - This sector involves designing and creating gardens and landscapes to meet user needs.
3. Garden Retail - The selling of plants and garden accessories.

Ornamental plants serve many various purposes that can be used to decorate. Besides adding beauty to our indoor and outdoor environments, it provides fragrance, fruits, and other benefits that enrich our quality of life. This is especially true in Singapore where our living environment is enriched by greening and beautification through the use of ornamental plants in housing estates, roads, parks, and public places. The economic value of ornamental plants is great in terms of products and services. It is a multi-billion-dollar industry that employs many people and provides subsidies for research and education.

### **Cultural and Historical Significance**

Ornamental plants have been intertwined with human culture throughout history. They have been used in religious ceremonies, medicinal practices, and decorative arts. The lotus flower, for example, holds sacred significance in Buddhism and Hinduism, while the rose has been a symbol of love and beauty in countless cultures.

The cultivation of ornamental plants has also played a significant role in the development of horticulture and landscape design. From the elaborate gardens of ancient Persia to the manicured lawns of Victorian England, ornamental plants have shaped the way we interact with our surroundings and appreciate the beauty of nature.

Development and offer of fancy plants, particularly native plants, is one manner by which rustic families or networks can create pay.

Distinguish reasonable families

What is it that a family need to begin a plant nursery?

- Solid admittance to water - enough water and not excessively pungent
- A wellspring of reasonable soil
- To work for over a year without pay while laying out the plants
- Land close to their home where a nursery can be set up (around 10 x 10 m)
- To have the option to lay out a safeguarded nursery region and construct a fencing and conceal net construction

- To have the option to get to seeds and cuttings

- To have the option to bear the cost of functional expenses like water and pesticides.

Foster an arrangement for the nursery

- Distinguish the plants to be developed (this data is required for the grant application, and for selling)

- Set focuses for the quantities of seedlings and cuttings you will develop

- Plan your working expenses, cash flow and so on

- Foster connections with different nurseries which are as of now on the lookout

- Choose where to take cuttings and gather seeds

- Conclude who you need to offer your plants to

- Plan how to move your plants to the market

- Foster a showcasing technique.

For example, plan to sell some fast-growing plants from the get-go and keep a few sluggish developing plants to sell later. A few unique individual plants ought to be kept longer so they can become greater and sell at greater expenses.

**Nursery design and gear**

Wall off a plot which is secure and will keep animals and chickens out. A region concealed by a 40% shade net is great for developing seedlings.

Make a little encased space to protect your seed plate when the seeds are developing.

It is helpful to have:

- a spade
- a push cart
- a scoop
- a watering can with rose
- a sprayer
- developing sacks (5 liter)
- seed plate
- secateurs (for taking cuttings)
- a collapsing fine saw (for taking cuttings)
- plastic at holders or bowls
- a recording file
- paper packs (for seed gathering)

**Working with seeds:**

- Gather seeds from chosen plants when the seeds are developed and ready. Store them in a paper parcel in a cool, dry place.

- Blend waterway sand, dirt and natural materials to make a reasonable soil for developing plants.
- Sow seeds in the mid-year months when it is warm. Sanitize seeds prior to establishing utilizing weakened or a conventional technique. Sow in seed plate at a profundity of around 5 mm.
- Lay out a watering system. Keep the dirt wet so the seedlings don't shrivel.
- At the point when the seeds have developed, move them from the germination region to the nursery.
- Relocate the seedlings into sacks/pots when they have three or four leaves.
- Weed consistently and splash against bugs and sicknesses if essential.
- At the point when the plants are deeply grounded, solidify them off by moving them free from the shade net, and steadily decrease the recurrence of watering.

### Conclusion

Overall, Ornamental plants is a valuable and important aspect of gardening and landscaping. Whether you are looking to add color and visual interest to your outdoor space, attract wildlife, or create practical and functional garden features, ornamental plants offer a wide range of benefits and possibilities. By incorporating ornamental plants into your garden design, you can create a beautiful and dynamic outdoor space that will be enjoyed for years to come.

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