



***Duranta erecta* L.**

Family: Verbenaceae

Common name: Pigeon berry, duranta.



Description:

Duranta erecta is cultivated as an ornamental plant throughout the world. It is a variable shrub or small tree, up to 18 ft in height with drooping branches, usually armed with spines. The branches are 4-angled with oval or ovate- elliptic leaves, bright green or variegated in colour. Flowers appear nearly throughout the year and are borne in profusion in panicles or loose racemes. The berries are glossy, orange coloured and globose.

Utilization:

It is mostly cultivated as an ornamental plant. It is commonly grown as a hedge plant and when trimmed, forms a strong compact hedge almost impenetrable to cattle.