

# *Cordia sebestena*

## **Role In Nature**

Orange Geiger tree, As an evergreen tree it helps maintain soil moisture and prevent erosion, its deep root helps stabilize the soil. The dense, leathery foliage provides shade and shelter for smaller plants and animals. Its spreading branches create a canopy that cools the surrounding area.

## **Cultural Significance**

The tree is widely planted throughout the tropics as an ornamental for its showy, shiny orange-crimson flowers. It is a famous landscaping and street tree. This tree has some restricted cultural use, Its one importance appears to be as an attractive decorative tree.

## **Medicinal Benefits**

- The leaves and fruits have been traditionally used to treat gastrointestinal disorders, wounds, boils, tumors, gout, ulcers, flu, fever, asthma, bronchitis, cough, and venereal diseases.
- Phytochemical studies reveal the presence of alkaloids, sterols, tannins, flavonoids, terpenoids, saponins, and carbohydrates in the leaves and fruits.
- Ethyl acetate extract of the leaves shows strong antibacterial activity against *Bacillus cereus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli*, and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.
- The bark, flowers, or fruit can be used to make syrups for treating coughs and bronchial ailments.

## Did You Know?

Orange Geiger Tree typically grows to a height of 25-30 feet. It has large, rough, dark green leaves and clusters of bright orange-red flowers that bloom throughout the year. The flowers of *Cordia sebestena* are tubular and can be 1-2 inches in diameter. The tree produces small, white, pear-shaped fruits that are not typically eaten by humans but can be consumed by wildlife.