

You are viewing one of thousands of biographies – click below for more, including Search box and access to Plant associated organisations.

[Plant Biographies](#)

[Bibliography](#)

Duranta erecta

[Synonyms : *Duranta ellisia*, *Duranta erecta* var. *alba*, *Duranta peruviana* var. *longipedicellata*, *Duranta plumeri*, *Duranta plumeri* var. *strigillosa*, *Duranta plumieri*, *Duranta repens*, *Duranta repens* var. *alba*, *Duranta repens* var. *canescens*, *Duranta repens* var. *grandiflora*, *Duranta repens* var. *lopez-palacii*, *Duranta repens* var. *macrophylla*, *Duranta repens* var. *variegata*, *Ellisia acuta*]

PIGEON-BERRY is an evergreen shrub or tree. Native from Key West (Florida in the United States) and the West Indies, to South America (particularly Brazil), it has small lilac, purplish or white flowers.

It is also known as *Duranta* (Portuguese), *Durante de Plumier* (French), Golden dewdrop, Golden tears, *Kriechende Durante* (German), Skyflower, *Troène d'Amérique* (French), and *Vanille maron* (French); and in flower language is said to be a symbol of indifference.

Warning – the fruit (and possibly the leaves) are poisonous. They can cause gastrointestinal disorders, vomiting, convulsions, fever, sleepiness and death.

Erecta means 'upright or erect'.

The berries are especially attractive to mocking birds.

It is a familiar sight today in parts of India where it is cultivated as hedging.