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Gossypium barbadense

[Synonyms : *Gossypium acuminatum*, *Gossypium arboreum* subsp. *perenne*, *Gossypium auritum*, *Gossypium barbadense* var. *acuminatum*, *Gossypium barbadense* var. *brasiliense*, *Gossypium barbadense* var. *maritimum*, *Gossypium barbadense* var. *pedatum*, *Gossypium barbadense* var. *peruvianum*, *Gossypium barbadense* var. *vitifolium*, *Gossypium brasiliense*, *Gossypium calycotum*, *Gossypium evertum*, *Gossypium frutescens* var. *maritimum*, *Gossypium guyanense*, *Gossypium herbaceum* var. *vitifolium*, *Gossypium lapideum*, *Gossypium lapideum* ssp. *acuminatum*, *Gossypium lapideum* ssp. *brasiliense*, *Gossypium maritimum*, *Gossypium multiglandulosum*, *Gossypium pedatum*, *Gossypium perenne*, *Gossypium peruvianum*, *Gossypium punctatum*, *Gossypium quinacre*, *Gossypium rohrianum*, *Gossypium suffruticosum*, *Gossypium vaupelli*, *Gossypium vitifolium*, *Hibiscus barbadensis*]

SEA ISLAND COTTON is a shrub or tree. Originating in tropical South America it has purple centred, yellow flowers.

It is also known as *Algodoeiro-americano* (Portuguese), *Algodoeiro-crioulo* (Portuguese), *Algodoeiro da costa* (Portuguese), *Algodoeiro da Guiné* (Portuguese), *Algodoeiro da praia* (Portuguese), *Algodoeiro das Barbadas* (Portuguese), *Algodoeiro das Indias occidentais* (Portuguese), *Algodoeiro de Pernambuco* (Portuguese), *Algodoeiro-egipcio* (Portuguese), *Algodoeiro folha parreira* (Portuguese), *Algodón* (Spanish), *Algodón americano* (Spanish), *Algodón de las Indias* (Spanish), *Algodón de las Indias Occidentales* (Spanish), *Algodón de las islas* (Spanish), *Algodón de mata* (Mexican, Spanish), *Algodonero de las Barbadas* (Spanish), *Algodonero egipcio* (Spanish), *Algodonero de las Barbados* (Spanish), *Algodón jujure* (Spanish), *Algodón vicuña* (Spanish), American-Egyptian cotton, American Pima cotton, *Arattam* (Tamil), Barbados cotton, Barbados cotton tree, *Baumwolle* (German), *Bavlník barbadoský* (Czech, Slovak), Brazilian cotton, *Chemparutti* (Malayalam), *Coton des Indes Occidentales* (French), *Cotonnier* (French), *Cotonnier d’Egypte* (French), Cotton plant, Creole cotton, Egyptian cotton, Extra long staple cotton, *Fai thet* (Thai), Gallini cotton, Kidney cotton, *Koton* (Creole), *Li he mu mian* (Chinese), Long staple cotton, *Maghani* (Sanskrit), *Mu mian* (Chinese), *Paidipatti* (Telugu), Peru cotton, Peruvian cotton, Pima cotton, South American cotton, *Thavnodes vamvaki* (Greek), Upland cotton, *Vestindisk bomuld* (Danish), and *Westindische Baumwolle* (German),.

Barbadense means ‘of or from Barbados (West Indies)’.

Sea Island cotton has several well-known cultivated varieties, including Bourbon cotton, Egyptian cotton, and Pima cotton.

Archaeologists have been able to find remains of sea island cotton in South America dating back to about 1500 BC.

This species is viewed today as an important source of genetic information.

Medicinally, the seeds have been used locally to treat skin disorders.