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Peristeria elata

HOLY GHOST FLOWER is an epiphytic, non-parasitic terrestrial orchid. Native from Costa Rica to Venezuela it has small waxy, very-fragrant white flowers with rose-purple spotted lip.

It is also known as Dove flower, Dove orchid, Dove plant, Flower of the Holy Spirit, Holy Ghost orchid, and Holy Spirit plant.

This species is protected in the wild where it has long been endangered from both over-harvesting and destruction of habitat.

Elata means 'tall'.

The frequent references to doves in some of the common names arises from the suggestion of the shape of a white dove among the blossoms formed by the fifth petal and the flower's sexual parts.

It is the national flower of Panama.

Holy ghost flower is cultivated as an ornamental.