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Philesia magellanica

[Synonyms : *Philesia buxifolia*]

COICOPIHUE is an evergreen shrub or vine. Native to southern Chile it has hanging, waxy pink flowers.

Magellanica means ‘of or from the area of the Magellan Straits (off the southern coasts of Chile and Argentina)’.

The shrub was introduced to Britain in the mid-1880s from Chile by William Lobb (1809-1864), the Cornishman who accompanied his brother Thomas to South America plant-hunting for the English nursery Veitch and Sons.

Coicopihue with its round red berries is cultivated as an ornamental plant.