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Tibouchina urvilleana

[Synonyms : *Lasiandra macrantha*, *Lasiandra urvilleana*, *Pleroma macrantha*, *Tibouchina grandiflora*, *Tibouchina semidecandra*]

GLORY BUSH is a deciduous or evergreen shrub or tree. Native to Brazil it has purple flowers with long spidery yellow stamens.

It is also known as *Aranhas* (Portuguese), Brazilian glorybush, Brazilian spider flower, *Grossblumige Tibouchine* (German), Lasiandra, Princess flower, Princess tree, Prince tree, Purple glory tree, Spider flower, and *Tibouchine du Brésil* (French).

Urvilleana commemorates a French navigator and explorer, Jules Sébastien-César Dumont d'Urville (1790-1842), who explored the South Pacific extensively with scientists on board. His 1826-1829 world circumnavigation led to a revision of several large island groups were and significant amendments of charts of South Sea waters. Following the July Revolution of 1830 and his forced abdication, it was d'Urville who transported Charles X (1757-1836) into exile in England. D'Urville surveyed the Strait of Magellan during his 1837-1840 expedition and although he was unable to penetrate the pack ice to explore Antarctica initially he discovered the Joinville group of islands off the north-eastern tip of Antarctica and later was able to approach a stretch of the Antarctic coast which he named after his wife, Adélie (and this extends inland today to embrace the French Antarctic possession of Terre Adélie).

Authorities believe that glory bush was introduced to Europe in 1864.

In Sri Lanka it has been cultivated as a hedging plant.