

Ixora coccinea

Botanical name: *Ixora coccinea*

Common name: Rugmini

Morphological characters:

Ixora coccinea is a low-growing tropical shrub notable for its bright coloured flowers which are composed of many small blooms massed together into dense, flat-topped flower heads. It is commonly 4–6 ft (1.2–2 m) in height, but capable of reaching up to 12 ft (3.6 m) high. It has a rounded form, with a spread that may exceed its height. It is a much-branching shrub, with leathery, shiny, pointed oblong leaves up to 10cm (4 inch) long and 5cm (2 inch) wide arranged in pairs or whorls of three or more in 1-2cm (0.4-0.8 inch) long stalks. Leaf colour is dark green, often bronzy when the leaves are new. Tubular flowers, which are up to 5cm (2 inch) long and fiery red, open at the mouth into four petals arranged in the form of a cross about a centimetre (0.4 inch) wide. The entire flower head has a diameter of 8-12cm (3-5 inch).



Growing season and type:

1. It grows in tropical areas with in medium annual rainfall in well drained soils.
2. Warmth is essential. These plants cannot tolerate temperatures below 15°C (59°F).
3. *Ixora coccinea* must have at least four hours a day of direct sunlight.
4. Normal flowering period is summer, but occasional flowers also appear in the autumn.



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1) Flower image of *Ixora coccinea*

2) Leaf image of *Ixora coccinea*

3) Shrub image of *Ixora coccinea*

source: <http://www.plantsrescue.com/ixora-coccinea/>

