



戶外通識教室：夾竹桃可淨化環境

Nature's Classroom: Sweet-scented Oleander—improve air quality

夾竹桃又名啞巴花、馬殺手，原產地為印度，乃常綠灌木，喜高溫、濕潤和陽光充足環境。莖直立、平滑像竹，分枝性強；花像桃，故得名。葉3至4枚輪生，具短柄，線狀披針形，先端銳尖；聚繖花序頂生，稍具芳香，筒狀鐘形，單或重瓣；蒴果，長圓柱狀，種子多及上端密披淡褐色長毛，但很少結果。枝條折斷時流出白色乳汁有毒，其葉莖皮也有劇毒。由於在污染環境下仍可生長良好，更可以淨化環境，故常種植在馬路旁以改善空氣。

Sweet-scented Oleander, Rosebay
(*Nerium indicum*)

Exotic, native to the Western Himalayas, perennial shrub with evergreen leaves and sweet-scented white or pink flowers. All parts of the plant are toxic. It is now widely planted in the tropics. An excellent topical remedy for skin disorders and headaches. It can be dangerous if large amounts are ingested. However, it can improve the air quality.

