

❀ Features of Higo Camellia ❀

What's different from the other camellia?

A big center with a single layer of petals

The 5-10 petals open up until they are flat.

The golden stamens puff out very far.

❀ Colors of Higo Camellia ❀

Red

White

Pink

Bicolor



❀ How many subtypes are there? ❀

About 120 cultivated varieties have been certified by the Higo Camellia Society.

❀ History of the Higo Camellia ❀

They are said to have originated in the 17th century, but the exact period and their creator are unknown.

1829 Edo Shirokane Florist's Bunsuke Notebook describes the cultivation methods for 30 types of Higo Camellia

1826-1860 "Hanaren" groups are formed, producing new flower varieties and developing breeding and growing methods

1877 Satsuma Rebellion
1945 Air Raids in Kumamoto

⇒ Flowers were seriously damaged and many varieties were lost.

After WWII, rules relax and groups begin exhibiting their Higo Camellia for the public to enjoy.

1958 Higo Camellia Society is established

1974 Higo Camellia Society is designated as the official flower of Kumamoto City

1975~ Higo Camellia explodes in popularity domestically as well as overseas

1983 Higo Camellia Society is reformed

Higo Camellia

Blooming season is from February through March



❀ Higo Camellia is a World-class Brand! ❀

The beauty of Higo Camellia attracts camellia lovers around the world!

Camellia is so popular that it will be featured at **the International Camellia Congress** (held biannually) in 2025 on March 9-12 in Tokyo.

❀ Bring Home a Higo Camellia ❀

Many people in Kumamoto have added Higo Camellia to their own gardens, but can you tell if they are a certified variety, a new variety, or something else?

✕ You can buy flowering trees and seedlings, but the Higo Camellia Society does not sell them.



❀ 2024 Exhibition of Higo Camellia Bonsai ❀

In Kumamoto City Zoological and Botanical Gardens

Thu, March 14 – Sun, March 17

Ultimate beauty formed by traditional techniques and training!



❀ Now in Bloom ❀

Prefectural Athletic Park
Country Park

City Zoological and Botanical Gardens
Suizenji Jojuen Garden

Higo-Hosokawa Garden in Tokyo



❀ Higo Camellia Society ❀

Promoting the Cultivation, Preservation and Succession of Bonsai techniques

with about 40 members including more than 10 overseas members.

The Chairperson is the Mayor of Kumamoto City.

We welcome those who want to join our society!

<Contact>

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❀ Flower Features ❀

Big center (the pistil)
Single layer of petals
Clear color

Let's see what makes each flower distinct !

❀ Carrying on the Tradition ❀

Strong traditionalists in Kumamoto known as "Higo Mokkos" have carefully preserved the methods of cultivation, formation and appreciation of potted plants, flowerbeds and bonsai.

What a profound craft !

❀ History of Higo Rokka ❀

Beginning in the 1700s, The 6th Hosokawa Lord of the Domain, **Hosokawa Shigekata (1720-1785)** encouraged samurai in Kumamoto Domain to grow to practice self-discipline.

In the 1800s, during the reign of 10th-generation Hosokawa Narimori (1804-1860), the samurai formed groups called 'Hanaren' to establish new varieties of flowers and set rules to grow them.

Taking flowers and seeds out of the group was prohibited!

In 1960, six of these special varieties of flower were selected throughout the seasons for an exhibition that would be held in presence of the Emperor.

These six types of flower have been collectively called 'Higo Rokka' ever since.

❀ Precious Treasures of Kumamoto ❀

The six unique kinds of flowers cultivated by the samurai of the Higo Domain



Higo Peony



Higo Camellia



Higo Iris



Higo Morning Glory



Higo Sasanqua



Higo Chrysanthemum

Higo Rokka

Vol.1, 2024

Camellia Season

Let's learn about Higo Rokka !

This leaflet was created by
Green Meisters of Kumamoto City Team てんとうむし(Ladybug)

We support preservation and cultivation of Higo Rokka!

Kumamoto City Team Tentomushi

Search

❀ Higo Rokka Blooming Calendar ❀

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
From mid-February to the end of March											
Higo Camellia ひごつばき Can be found at the Zoological and botanical Gardens, Prefectural Athletic Park, Suizenji Jojuen Garden, Country Park in Kumamoto and Higo Hosokawa Garden in Tokyo * Exhibition at Suizenji Jojuen Garden											
From late April through early May											
Higo Peony ひごしやくやく Can be found at the Zoological and Botanical Gardens, Suizenji Jojuen Garden in Kumamoto, Higo Hosokawa Garden in Tokyo, and Kyuhoji Ryokuchi Park in Osaka * Exhibition at Suizenji Jojuen Garden, Tsukahara Museum											
From late May through mid-June											
Higo Iris ひごはなしょうぶ Can be found at Shohinken garden, the Zoological and Botanical Gardens, Suizenji Jojuen Garden in Kumamoto, and Higo Hosokawa Garden in Tokyo * Exhibition at Kumamoto Castle, Suizenji Jojuen Garden											
From July to September											
Higo Morning Glory ひごあさがね * Exhibition at Kumamoto Castle, Suizenji Jojuen Garden, Aspecta, Kumamoto Shintoshin Plaza, Koraimon Gate											
From mid-November through early December											
Higo Chrysanthemum ひごぎく Can be found at Suizenji Jojuen Garden * Exhibition at Kumamoto Castle, Kumamoto Shintoshin Plaza Former Residence of Hosokawa Gyobu, Suizenji Jojuen Garden, Higo Hosokawa Garden in Tokyo											
From November through December											
Higo Sasanqua ひござんか Can be found at the Zoological and Botanical Gardens, Suizenji Jojuen Garden, Prefectural Athletic Park in Kumamoto, and Higo Hosokawa Garden in Tokyo * Exhibition at Suizenji Jojuen Garden											

❀ Higo Rokka are often used as designs in Kumamoto

← A manhole cover with a Higo Camellia design

