

Higo Sasanqua

Blooms November through December

✿ Features of Higo Sasanqua ✿

What makes it different from other Sasanquas?

A big center with a single layer of petals

A single layer of large petals and a golden center make for a flower size of 5-15 cm.

Some even develop double or multiple layers

The center gets covered with up to 30-50 petals.



✿ Colors of Higo Sasanqua

Red White Pink Bicolor



✿ How many subtypes are there?

About 40 varieties

Numerous shapes, sizes and color!

✿ The Yamasaki-Onishiki is Representative of Higo Sasanqua ✿

**What a beautiful
bicolor gradation!**

The petals have white centers, with a gradation of bright red toward edges and deep red undersides.

✿ History of the Higo Sasanqua ✿

Sasanqua was used as a raw material oil in the old days.
It has the shortest history among the six flowers of Higo.

- 1756 Feudal lord Hosokawa Shigekata encourages cultivation of sasanquas as medicinal plants at the Banji-en herb garden.
From then on, it is gradually cultivated as an ornamental plant.
- 1865 Yamasaki Sadatsugu, florist and general manager of the Higo Iris Society,
- 1879 repeats seedling selection.
The famous Yamasaki-Onishiki, or the first Higo Sasanqua flower, is created.
The process of selective breeding advances and new flower varieties are produced one after another.
- 1900 New varieties such as "Kikenjo", "Benibotan", "Ozora", "Wakanora" and "Hinotsukasa" are produced.
- 1902 The Hanaren Banko-kai group is formed and flower cultivation is preserved by its members.
- 1967 The **Higo Sasanqua Society is established.**
The members are devoted to preserving the pure Higo Sasanqua.

✿ Higo Sasanqua Exhibition 2025 ✿

Suizenji Jojuen Garden Exhibition Hall

Sat, Nov.29, 9AM-4:30PM

Sun, Nov.30, 9AM-4PM

View the fragrant flowers up close!

The shape of their branches are also magnificent!

✿ Higo Sasanqua Viewing ✿

Kumamoto Prefectural General Sports Park

Higo Sasanqua Street

Kumamoto City Zoo and Botanical Garden

Suizenji Jojuen Garden

- Flowerbed in front of main torii gate
- Relaxation Square
- Beside the Yabusame grounds

Higo Hosokawa Garden in Tokyo



✿ Sasanqua is Native to Japan!

It grows naturally in western Japan including Kumamoto Prefecture, and belongs to the camellia genus of the Theaceae family-making it, in fact, a type of camellia.

✿ What is the Different Between Sasanqua and Camellia? ✿

Sasanqua : Bloom from October to February (autumn- winter).

It sheds petals one by one, and has rough- edged leaves with hairy undersides.

Camellia : Bloom from January to March (winter-spring).

It sheds it's petals completely and has smooth-edged leaves with no hairy undersides.

✿ Higo Sasanqua Society ✿

**Promoting the cultivation, preservation, improvement and
Dissemination of pure flowers *Now accepting new members!**

Higo Sasanqua Exhibition in November

held every year since the society's founding!

<Contact> Agriculture and Fisheries Bureau

Agricultural Affairs Department Farmer Support Section

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The six varieties of traditional flowers unique to Kumamoto cultivated by the Higo samurai during the Edo period

2025 Vol.6
November–December



Higo Chrysanthemum



Higo Sasanqua



**Higo
Camellia**



Higo Morning Glory



Higo Iris



Higo Peony

Did you know?
Higo Rokka

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

Let's see what makes each flower distinct!

The spirit of “*Higo mokkosu*” has preserved the methods of cultivation, formation and appreciation of

Potted Plants, Flowerbeds and Bonsai

The profound world of Higo Rokka!

Let' s Learn More about Higo Rokka

created by **Meisters of Greening in Kumamoto City Team** てんとうむし (Ladybug)

We support the preservation, inheritance, and development of the Higo Rokka!



The 6th Hosokawa Lord of the Kumamoto Domain, Hosokawa Shigekata (1720-1785) **encouraged clansmen to practice horticulture as a form of self-discipline.**

(1804-1860), the clansmen formed an enthusiast group called

Hanaren to establish new varieties of flowers and set rules to grow them.

Taking flowers, seedlings, or seeds out of the group was prohibited!

In 1960, six flower varieties that could be enjoyed during all four seasons were selected for an exhibition held in the presence of Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress.

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

🌸 Let's See the Higo Rokka! Blooming Calendar

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
 From mid-February to early April										
Higo Camellia ひごばき 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 Zoological and Botanical Garden and Suizenji Jojuen garden										
 From late April through early May										
Higo Peony ひごしゃくやく 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 and Tsukawara 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										
From July to September 										
Higo Morning Glory ひごあさがお * Exhibition at Kumamoto Castle, Suizenji Jojuen Garden, Koraimon Gate and Kumamoto City International Center										
From mid-November through early December 										
Higo Chrysanthemum ひござく Can be found at Suizenji Jojuen Garden * Exhibition at Kumamoto Castle, Suizenji Jojuen Garden and Kumamoto City International Center										
From November through December 										
Higo Sasanqua ひござざんか 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										

*Exhibition dates and locations are subject to change or may be cancelled.

🌸 Entry to the flower garden named Higo Meika-en at Kumamoto Castle's Takenomaru is prohibited post-Kumamoto Earthquake.

The Rokka are observable at the exhibitions within the castle.



**Used in a Variety
of Designs Too!**

Manhole: Higo Camellia
(Kumamoto City Waterworks
and Sewage Bureau)



Did you now Higo Rokka

