

## ❀ Features of the Higo Chrysanthemum

What makes it different from other chrysanthemum?

**All petals are single petals**

**Colors:**

White

Yellow

Red

**The shape of the petals is distinctive !**



**Flat**  
Large



**Tube**  
Medium



**Spoon-like**  
Small

**Flower Size:**

Diameter:

20-22cm

Height:

~135cm

8-10cm

~90cm

5-6cm

~45cm

## ❀ Flowerbed Cultivation is the Rule!

The flowerbeds are 3-ken, 2-ken, or 5-ken.

※ ken is a Japanese measurement equal to 1.82m.

## ❀ How Many Subtypes Are There?

**There are 90~100 varieties**

**Flowerbeds will always feature different varieties!**

A 3-ken flowerbed holds 29 varieties 🐞

# Higo Chrysanthemum

Blooms Mid-November Through Early December



## How to Admire the Higo Chrysanthemum:

View them from a distance of three times the height of the large flowers in the back!



## ❀ The Complex Arrangement of the Flowers Represents the Nature of the Universe

### Heaven/Earth/Humanity

Back Row → Large Flowers (Heaven)

Middle Row → Medium Flowers (Humanity)

Front Row → Small Flowers (Earth)

Order From Left to Right

Red (flat) • White (tube) • Yellow (flat)

Yellow (flat) • Red (tube) • White (flat)

Red (flat) • White (tube) • Yellow (flat)

### The Five Cardinal Confucian Virtues

(Benevolence, Righteousness, Wisdom, Propriety and Trustworthiness)

Large and medium Higo Chrysanthemums typically hold five flowers per seedling.

※7, 9, or 11 flower seedlings are also possible

**Yin:** Middle flowers (in the back) are **shorter** than the side flowers.

**Yang:** Middle flowers (in the back) are **taller** than the side flowers.

## ❀ Flowerbed Cultivation is the Result of Self-Discipline!

The cultivators discipline themselves by making their own flowerbed throughout the year. The flowerbeds reflect their dignities.

Formal attire (crested hakama) would be required when appreciating Higo Chrysanthemum in the past.

## ❀ Where to Enjoy Higo Chrysanthemum in 2024

### 3-ken Flowerbed

※As of now, only displayed at the following locations:

**Suizenji Jojuen Higo Chrysanthemum Exhibition**

Flowerbed & Exhibition

**Nov. 15 (Fri) – Dec. 10 (Tue) 8:30a.m. – 5:00p.m.**

### [Chrysanthemum Viewing Party]

Hear commentary from a Meister of Greening in Kumamoto City and a flower grower of the garden

**Nov. 30 (Sat) • Dec 1 (Sun) 10:00a.m. – 2:00p.m.**

### 1-ken Decoration: Flowerbeds aligned with potted flowers

\* Exhibition of flowers grown inside Kumamoto Castle!

**Kumamoto Castle: Main Castle Keep Square,**

**Josaisen Wakuwakuza Nov. 15 (Fri) – Nov.23(Sat)**

**Izumi Shrine (Suizenji Jojuen) Nov.15 (Fri) – Nov.23 (sat)**

\*Exhibition time and day is subject to change. Please confirm details with each venue.

## ❀ History of the Higo Chrysanthemum ❀

The chrysanthemum is one of the flowers that has been cultivated and loved in Japan since the old days.

- 1751 Cultivation of Higo Chrysanthemum begins as a cultural policy by the feudal lord, Hosokawa Shigekata.
- ~1764
- 1819 Hideshima Shichiemon, a retainer of the Higo Domain, publishes a book about the cultivation methods of Higo Chrysanthemum.
- 1826 The Hanaren regulations are established, allowing selective breeding and the creation of new varieties
- ~1860 The method of flowerbed creation is established.
- 1887 The Chrysanthemum preservation society "Aiju-Kai" is formed.
- 1929 Aiju-Kai is reorganized. Rules about sharing seedlings relax and membership numbers rise.
- The Higo Chrysanthemum takes a big hit from WWII but recovers its vigor postwar.
- Around 1972 The Higo Chrysanthemum Preservation Society is set up within the Kumamoto City Tourism Section.
- 1975 The Higo Meika Garden is created in the Takeno-maru area of Kumamoto Castle.

Even today, Aiju-Kai members are preserving cultivation and creating flowerbeds! Seedlings are only shared with members.

## ❀ Aiju-Kai ❀

### Passing on the Traditions of Flowerbed Cultivation and Methods of Preservation

Now accepting applicants who share their love for the Higo Chrysanthemum!

[Activities] ※Only Members Allowed

April: Distribution of Seeds

June: Cultivation Technique Guidance

November: Flowerbed Viewing Party

### <Contact>

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Created by **Meisters of Greening in Kumamoto City**  
**Team てんとむし (Ladybug)**



Kumamoto City Team Tentomushi

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## ❀Center of the Flower!

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

Let's see what makes each  
flower distinct!

## ❀Precious Treasures of Kumamoto❀

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

## ❀Let's See the Higo Rokka! Blooming Calendar

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<p>From mid-February to the end of March</p> <p><b>Higo Camellia</b> ひごつばき</p> <p>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</p> <p>* Exhibition at Zoological and Botanical Garden</p>											
<p>From late April through early May</p> <p><b>Higo Peony</b> ひごしゃくやく</p> <p>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</p> <p>* Exhibition at Suizenji Jojuen Garden, Tsukawara Museum</p>											
<p>From late May through mid-June</p> <p><b>Higo Iris</b> ひごはなしょうぶ</p> <p>Can be found at Shohinken garden, the Zoological and Botanical Gardens, Suizenji Jojuen Garden in Kumamoto and Higo Hosokawa Garden in Tokyo</p> <p>* Exhibition at Kumamoto Castle</p>											
<p>From July to September</p> <p><b>Higo Morning Glory</b> ひごあさがお</p> <p>* Exhibition at Kumamoto Castle, Suizenji Jojuen Garden, Koraimon Gate and Kumamoto City International Center</p>											
<p>From mid-November through early December</p> <p><b>Higo Chrysanthemum</b> ひごぎく</p> <p>Can be found at Suizenji Jojuen Garden</p> <p>* Exhibition at Kumamoto Castle and Suizenji Jojuen Garden</p>											
<p>From November through December</p> <p><b>Higo Sasanqua</b> ひごさざんか</p> <p>Can be found at the Zoological and Botanical Gardens, Suizenji Jojuen Garden, Prefectural Athletic Park in Kumamoto and Higo Hosokawa Garden in Tokyo</p> <p>* Exhibition at Suizenji Jojuen Garden</p>											

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

\*Entry to the Higo Meika-en (Flower Garden) at Kumamoto Castle's Takenomaru is prohibited post-Kumamoto Earthquake. The Rokka are observable at the exhibitions within the castle.

## ❀Carrying on Tradition & Spirit!❀

The spirit of "**Higo mokkosu**" has preserved  
the methods of  
**cultivation,**  
**formation,**  
and **appreciation of**  
**Potted Plants, Flowerbeds, & Bonsai**  
The profound world of Higo Rokka!

## ❀History of Higo Rokka❀

Beginning in the 1700s,  
The 6th Hosokawa Lord of the Kumamoto Domain,  
Hosokawa Shigekata (1720-1785) **encouraged**  
**clansmen to practice horticulture as a form of self-**  
**discipline.**

In the 1800s, during the reign of 10<sup>th</sup>-generation  
Hosokawa Narimori (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 the Emperor.

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



Higo  
Morning Glory



Higo  
Chrysanthemum



Higo Iris



Higo  
Sasanqua



Higo  
Peony



Higo  
Camellia

Did you know?  
**Higo Rokka**  
**Vol.5, 2024**  
**Chrysanthemum**  
**Season**

## 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!

Kumamoto City Team Tentomushi

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## ❀Used in a Variety of Designs Too!

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

