

# *Rosa indica*

**Common name:** Rose, Gulab

**Family:** Rosaceae

**Habit:** Shrub

**Location:** Pasricha, Science and Commerce Block, Botanical Garden and Hostel

**Distribution:** Indian Fragrant Rose is native to China, Laos, Taiwan, Vietnam, introduced and widely cultivated in India.

## **Description:**

Indian Fragrant Rose is an extremely popular species of rose in India. It is an erect shrub with prickles curved or almost absent. Flowers arise solitary or several in short panicles, fragrant, usually double, red to white on long smooth or glandular flower-stalks. Sepals are entire, with long thread-like tip, rising up or patent after flowering, deciduous. Styles are long, free, hairless, distinctly protruding through the narrow orifice. Leaves are evergreen, compound, with leaflets 3-5(-7), deep green and a shining above, paler beneath, normally hairless. Stipules very narrow, with lance shaped, erect or slightly divergent ears. Fruit is ovoid to pear-shaped, smooth. (Flowers of India, 2016)

## **Uses:**

Indian Fragrant Rose is renowned for its fine fragrance, and its flowers are commercially harvested for rose oil used in perfumery. In south India, it is used in garlands, and in making rose-water. Rose flowers are Anti-depressant, anti-spasmodic, aphrodisiac, astringent, increase bile production, cleansing, anti- bacterial and antiseptic. Rose hips tea is also used in the treatment of diarrhea. Rose petals are mildly sedative, antiseptic, anti- inflammatory, and antiparasitic. They are also mild laxative, a good supportive tonic for the heart, and useful for lowering cholesterol. The antiseptic nature of rose petals makes them a wonderful treatment for wounds, bruises, rashes and incisions, their anti-inflammatory properties make them a wonderful treatment for sore throats or ulcers. They can stimulate the liver and increase appetite and circulation. The extract of the rose petals is used as e drops or eye wash in burning sensation of the eyes. (Dr. Savita Chahar, 2016)



