

“Dissemination of Education for Knowledge, Science and Culture”

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**DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY**

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**Botanical Name:** *Hamelia ptens* Jacq.

**Family:** Rubiaceae.

**Common Name:** Firebush, Hummingbird bush, Scarlet bush, and redhead.

**Origin:** American subtropics and tropics, Southern United States, Argentina.

**Characters:**

- This plant is free-flowering.
- The flowers are arranged in cymes, clusters of flowers that occur at the end of forking floral stalks.
- Each flowers has small and triangular lobes on a narrow tube with swollen base.
- They are popular as ornamental plants.
- They are used in landscaping and as street trees.
- *Hamelia* attracts pollinators such as hummingbirds, butterflies, and bees.
- *Hamelia patens* is an ornamental plant grown almost worldwide in warm, moist areas.
- *Hamelia* used to treat athletes foot, skin lesions and insect bites, nervous shock, inflammation, rheumatism, headache, asthma, and dysentery.

