

# **ADVANCES IN CULTIVATION OF JASMINE FOR LOOSE FLOWER PRODUCTION**

Safeena S.A

*ICAR-Directorate of Floricultural Research, Pune*

## **INTRODUCTION**

Taxonomic name *Jasminum* is a genus of shrubs and vines belonging to the family Oleaceae. The genus *Jasminum* contains more than 200 species native to tropical and warm temperate regions of the Eurasia, Australasia and Oceania. Jasmines are widely cultivated for the characteristic fragrance of their flowers. It belongs to the Kingdom: Plantae, Order: Lamiales, Family: Oleaceae, Tribe: Jasmineae and Genus: *Jasminum* L. There are trailing, climbing, and erect growing species and cultivars in the genus *Jasminum*. Some selected species include *Jasminum humile* L. – Italian jasmine, Italian yellow jasmine; *Jasminum adenophyllum* Wall. – bluegrape jasmine, pinwheel jasmine, princess jasmine; *Jasminum mesnyi* Hance – Japanese jasmine, primrose jasmine, yellow jasmine; *Jasminum angustifolium* (L.) Willd.; *Jasminum auriculatum* Vahl – Indian jasmine, needle-flower jasmine and *Jasminum sambac* (L.) Aiton – Arabian jasmine, Sambac jasmine. Jasmines constitute a group of fragrant flowers which are commercially grown in many parts of the country as dry land crop and leading states in jasmine production are Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Jasmine contributes substantially to the national economy and it is estimated that annually more than 20 crores worth of jasmine flowers are produced and sold in India and are also exported to neighbouring countries.

## **IMPORTANT SPECIES OF JASMINUM**

Four important species of *Jasminum* widely cultivated in India are *Jasminum sambac*, *Jasminum grandiflorum*, *Jasminum auriculatum* and *Jasminum multiflorum*. They prefer mild tropical climate.

## **DISTRIBUTION OF SOME IMPORTANT JASMINE SPECIES**

<i>J. auriculatum</i>	India
<i>J. grandiflorum</i>	Subtropical Himalayan Region
<i>J. farreri</i>	Myanmar
<i>J. humile</i>	Tropical Asia
<i>J. flexile</i>	India
<i>J. multiflorum</i>	India, China, Myanmar, Malaysia, U.S.A
<i>J. officinale</i>	Iran, India, China

## **USES OF JASMINE**

Jasmine flowers are preferred for making special type of flower strings called veni, garlands, floral decorations, religious offering, extraction of essential oil which is used in preparing high grade perfumes, perfumed hair oils and attars, soap and cosmetic industry, colognes and flavouring the beverages etc. Jasmine is enjoyed in the garden, as a house plant. The flowers are worn by women in their hair in south India. The flowers of Arabian jasmine (*J. Sambac*)