



花
Flower

Photos from AFCD



果實
Fruit

珊瑚樹

Sweet Viburnum

學名: *Viburnum odoratissimum*

原產地: 中國南部、中南半島及印度東部。

Scientific name: *Viburnum odoratissimum*

Origin: Southern China, Indochina
and eastern India.

每逢夏季，郊野及路邊可常看到一種結滿了一串串鮮紅色肉質核果的灌木或小喬木，在陽光照耀下它的果實猶如紅珊瑚般晶瑩剔透，故名為珊瑚樹。珊瑚樹在花果期以外的季節並不顯眼，辨認特徵主要包括灰褐色的樹皮、對生排列深綠而具光澤的葉片、葉背的主脈與側脈間有小撮黃色幼毛。珊瑚樹是本地原生樹種，能適應多種環境，它的花果為昆蟲和雀鳥提供食物，在生態系統中扮演著重要的角色。近年乃郊野公園植林計劃中經常種植的樹木之一。✿

You may have come across a shrub or small tree bearing clusters of small, red and fleshy drupes in the summer. Under the sun, the glittering red fruits are as attractive as red coral and hence it is named “Coral Tree” in Chinese. The Sweet Viburnum is a plain tree when it is not blooming or fruiting. Its major identification features include its brownish-grey tree bark, dark-green shiny leaves in opposite leaf arrangement, and a small bunch of fine yellow hairs at the junctions of midvein and lateral veins at the underside of the leaf. Sweet Viburnum is native to Hong Kong, adaptive to different environment, and plays an important role in the ecosystem as it provides fruit and nectar for birds and insects. It has become one of the most commonly planted tree species in country park afforestation programme in recent years. ✿