



WISTERIA SINENSIS (SIMS) DC.

Fam. Fabacee (o Leguminose)

DESCRIPTION

Coarse and vigorous climbing shrub with twining stems which can reach 10–20 metres in height depending on the support.

HABITAT

Native to Asia, more precisely, China and Japan.

DISTRIBUTION

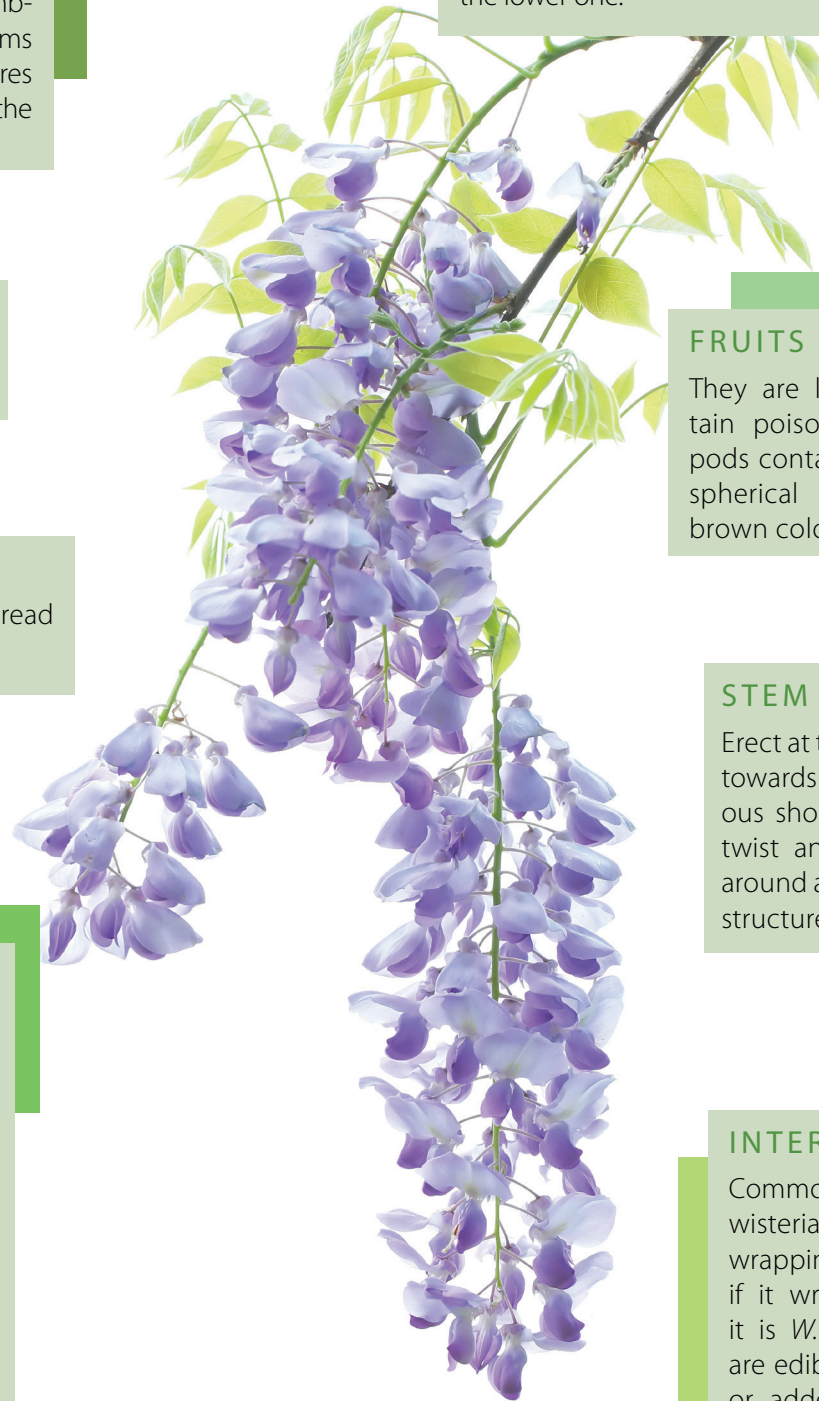
Very coarse species spread throughout Italy.

FLOWERS

Fragrant inflorescences bundled in pendulous clusters even more than 20 cm long. The colour of Chinese wisteria's flowers varies from milky white to rosy white and from purplish white to lavender-blue depending on the age of the plant and the variety. It blooms twice a year with the first flowering taking place between May and June and lasting about 1 month. The second flowering, less abundant than the previous one, takes place in August.

LEAVES

Lanceolate, dark-green on the upper face and light-green on the lower one.



FRUITS

They are legumes and contain poisonous seeds; large pods contain 2 to 5 flattened spherical seeds of a dark-brown colour.

STEM

Erect at the base, it intertwines towards the top; its numerous shoots, gradually thinner, twist and mould themselves around any nearby supporting structure.

INTERESTING FACTS

Commonly known as Chinese wisteria, this plant grows by wrapping around any support; if it wraps counterclockwise, it is *W. Sinensis*). The flowers are edible and can be cooked or added to salads. Wisteria flowers symbolise the development of conscience, helpfulness and friendship.

ROOTS

Sturdy and shallow roots that expand easily.