

CITY OF SANIBEL.

RESOLUTION NO. 89 - 117

A RESOLUTION DECLARING JOEWOOD (JACQUINA KEYENSIS) AS THE CITY PLANT OF SANIBEL; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Sanibel does not have an officially recognized City plant; and

WHEREAS, the beauty of Joewood (Jacquina Keyensis), with its sculptured appearance and fragrant flowered bouquet, is unsurpassed by any other native species; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sanibel should diligently pursue the protection and propagation of native species as it does the discouragement of exotic species and eradication of noxious plants; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the fragility of Joewood, and recognizing it is nearly impossible to transplant or propagate, it would give a sense of community pride in trying to protect such a splendid plant and have it declared as the City plant of Sanibel; and

WHEREAS, the Vegetation Committee has recommended that the Joewood be declared to be the City plant of Sanibel;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Sanibel, Lee County, Florida:

Section 1. Joewood (Jacquina Keyensis) is hereby designated the City plant of Sanibel.

Section 2. Effective Date.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

DULY PASSED AND ENACTED by the Council of the City of Sanibel, Lee County, Florida, this 20th day of June, 1989.

ATTEST:

Frank O. Bandy
Member of Council

Raymond L. Price
City Clerk

Donald P. ...
Member of Council

Louanna A. Brewer
Mayor

Wick ...
Member of Council

Mark A. Westall
Member of Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Robert D. ... 6/3/89
City Attorney

FOR ISLANDER

VEGETATION MATTERS
by Berdenna Thompson
Member Sanibel Vegetation Committee

(Editor's note -- This is the sixth in a series of articles by members of the City of Sanibel Vegetation Committee dealing with vegetative matters of concern to island residents.)

Make it a point during June and July to find a joewood in bloom. Admire and enjoy to the fullest the fragrance of the lovely white flowers. Since June 20, 1989, the joewood -- Jacquina keyensis -- has been the official plant of the city of Sanibel.

Joewood's scientific name honors Joseph von Jacquin (1727-1817), an Austrian professor who collected, cataloged and painted many West Indian plants. "Keyensis" recognizes the Florida Keys where the plant is often found.

While not abundant, joewood is found in some 50 Florida sites. It is found north to Symrna Beach on the east coast and north to Gasparilla Island on the west coast. It is more common in the Greater Antilles, Cuba, Jamaica and the Bahamas Islands.

Joewood grows in dry soil or silicon sand in the immediate neighborhood of the shore or coast. Occasionally, it may be associated with mangroves growing on exposed coral. It has also been found on the dry hammocks and pinelands of the Everglades Keys.

There is intense pressure on the habitat of joewood. The natural coastal areas are rapidly turning into altered and developed lands. On Sanibel, some fine specimens were carelessly destroyed along the dry ridge Gulf front. Joewood is abundant in the Wulfert area, which is now being developed, and on Silver Key, which is under tremendous pressure for development.

Joewood does not transplant easily. In the Wulfert area, a 14-ton tree spade was used to relocate many of the fragile plants. It employed four shovels simultaneously, digging about four feet into the ground and about two feet from the plant in an attempt to keep the earth intact around the root system. Not all the transplanted joewoods have survived.

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JOEWOOD

Berdenna Thompson

Make it a point during July and August to find a joewood in bloom, Sanibel's Official City Plant. Admire and enjoy to the fullest the fragrance of these lovely white flowers. On June 20, 1989, a proclamation was written for one of the city's protected and threatened plants joewood, *Jacquinia keyensis*. Joewood's scientific name honors Nicholas Joseph von Jacquin (1727-1817), an Austrian professor who collected, cataloged, drew and painted many West Indies plants. "Keyensis" recognizes the Florida Keys where the plant is often found.

Classified as a shrub or small tree, joewood has an attractive sculptured appearance. It is an evergreen with many branches forming a compact round top. It's height can be 15 feet or more. It has a straight trunk and rigid spreading branches. It's bark is thin, blue gray and usually marked by pale or nearly white blotches. The leaves are leathery, each leaf having an obscure midrib and covered on the lower surfaces with pale dots.

The fragrant bouquet of the joewood flower is possibly more aromatic than that of any other of our native plants. The flowers are star-shaped on terminal spikes. Each is stalked and has a short lobed, green leaf-like calyx. The white petals spread widely when the flowers open. Each flower is structurally perfect, but there is a pronounced difference between the male and female flowers both of which appear on the same plant. Since the flowers are attractive and sweet-scented, insects are obvious pollinators. Flowers appear in Florida from November through June, but are more abundant in July and August.

The fruit ripens in autumn. Berries are orange-red and hard coated when fully ripe. The leathery coat encloses the enlarged and fleshy placenta. In the tissue are several seeds, flat and round.

Joewood grows in dry soil or silicon sand in the immediate neighborhood of the shore or coast. Occasionally, it may be associated with mangroves growing on exposed soil. It has also been found on the dry hammocks and pinelands of the Everglade Keys. While not abundant, joewood is found in some 50 Florida sites. It ranges north to Symna Beach on the east coast and to Gasparilla Island on the west coast. It is more common in the Greater Antilles, Cuba, Jamaica and the Bahama Islands.

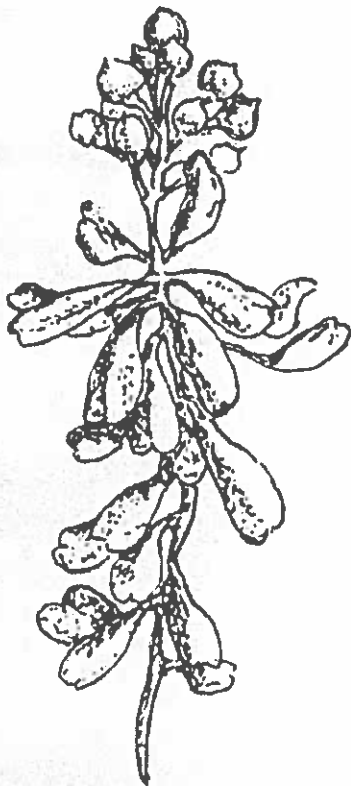
Joewood is a slow grower and does not transplant easily. On Sanibel, some fine specimens were carelessly destroyed along the dry ridge Gulf front. Much of our natural coastal areas have turned into altered and developed lands. Joewood was abundant in the Wulfert area. At the time of that development, a 14 ton tree spade was used to relocate many fragile plants. It employed four shovels simultaneously digging about four feet into the ground and about two feet from the plant in order to attempt to keep the earth intact around the root system. Not all the transplanted

THE JOEWOOD: SANIBEL'S OFFICIAL PLANT

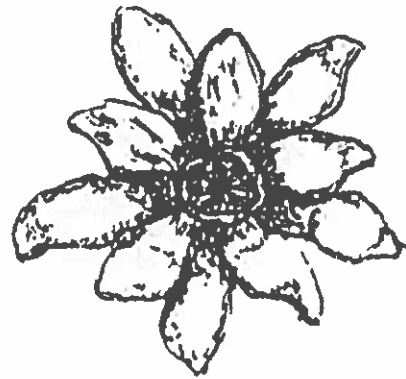
If you have a Joewood plant on your property, you are very fortunate. The Joewood is the most honored on the City's list of protected plants. Since June 20, 1989 it has been recognized as the official plant for the City of Sanibel.

Classified as a shrub, or a small tree, Joewood has an attractive sculptured appearance. It is an evergreen with many rigid wide-spreading branches forming a compact round top. It can exceed 15 feet in height and has a straight trunk with thin, smooth bark which is blue-gray in color and is usually marked with pale or nearly-white blotches. The leaves are leathery, each having an obscure midrib and are covered with pale dots on the lower surface.

The fragrant bouquet of the Joewood flower is possibly more aromatic than any other native plant. The flowers are star-shaped on terminal spikes with white petals and are each structurally perfect. Blooms may appear at any time from November through August, but are more abundant during the summer.



Typical Joewood Stem With Fruit



Typical Flower (Above), & Flower Bud (Below)



The fruit ripens in the fall and berries are orange-red and hard-coated when fully ripe. Within each berry are several seeds which are flat and light-brown.

The scientific name of the Joewood (*Jacquinia keyensis*) honors Nicholas Joseph Van Jacquin (1727-1817), an Austrian professor who collected, cataloged and painted many West Indian plants. "Keyensis" is in recognition of the Florida Keys where the plant is often found.

Joewood grows in dry soil or silicon sand in the immediate neighborhood of the shore or coast. Occasionally it is associated with mangroves growing on exposed coral and has been found on the dry hammocks and pinelands of the Everglades Keys.

Joewood is found in abundant numbers in the Wulfert area. It is a rare and threatened plant and does not transplant easily. If you happen to have one, please protect it. Once you've experienced the fragrance of it's lovely white flowers you'll understand why it is Sanibel's official city plant. Please join the City's efforts to preserve it for generations to come!

THE SANIBEL VEGETATION COMMITTEE