

Davidia involucrata

Handkerchief Tree



Davidia involucrata 4m

Davidia involucrata is the only member of its genus but there are two varieties separated by their leaves, var. *involucrata* which whose leaves are short haired on the underside and var. *vilmoriniana* which have hairless leaves.

A small/medium sized tree it is most well known for its astonishing white, large bracts that hang like pinched handkerchiefs from its branches in May.

The foliage is mid-sized and heart shaped, of an attractive green colour in summer turning shades of orange and yellow in winter with young foliage in spring having a red/purple colour and a spicy, incense fragrance. Small inedible pear shaped fruits are produced in the spring.



Flowers of the Davidia involucrata vilmoriniana

Plant Profile

Name:	<i>Davidia involucrata</i>
Common Name:	Handkerchief Tree / Dove Tree
Family:	Nyssaceae
Height:	Up to above 12 metres
Width:	Up to 6-8 metres
Demands:	Sun or light shade in a sheltered position
Soil:	All soils tolerated but prefers well drained or moist but well drained
Foliage:	Deciduous
Fruit:	Hard Nut with green husk



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The *Davidia involucrata* is named after the French missionary and botanist Father Armand David who was also the first westerner to report a sighting of a panda!



Summer foliage



Container Grown 3-4m *Davidia involucrata*



Davidia involucrata 3.5-4m in winter