

## Trees

We believe they are : Cuban Trumpet Tree or Cuban Pink Trumpet Tree

Scientific stuff for the grand kids:

Its a plant therefore member of the kingdom of Plante

Phylum. : Tracheophyta  
Class. : Magnoliopsida  
Order. : Lamiales  
Family. : Bignoniaceae  
Genus. : Tabebuia

Species : heterophylla. Or pallida

So botanical name is : Tabebuia heterophylla. Or Tabebuia Pallida

There are a variety of common folk names, the most popular is Cuban Trumpet tree or Cuban Pink Trumpet Tree depending on colouring of the flowers .

I think we were originally told they were Tabebuia Pallida which they are but there is a sub species heterophylla.

heterophylla means having two different types of leaves. I had a look and our trees have both 3 and 5 leaflets unlike the other species of Trumpet Tree which only have leaves with 5 leaflets.

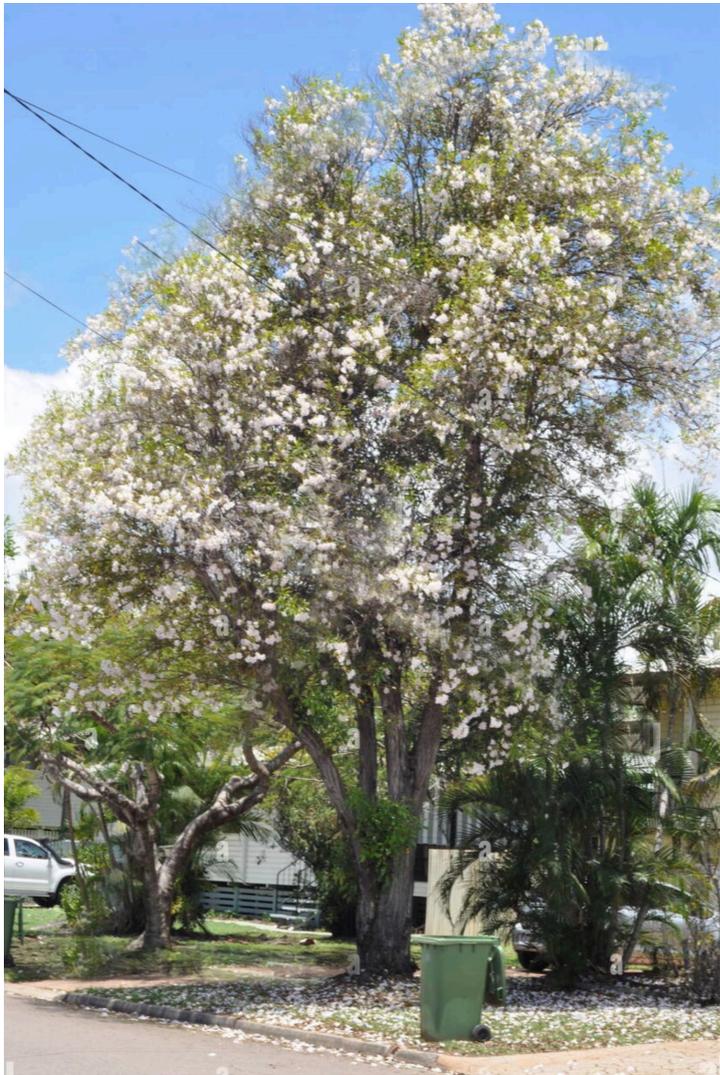
So likelihood is they are the Cuban Trumpet Tree. Tabebuia heterophylla the flowers will be either white or subtle pale lavender with pink towards the middle. Or could be pink.  
If they are indeed T.pallida the flowers maybe white .

Now if your thinking the genus name Tabebuia T word, some how relates to tubular or trumpet your wrong.

Tabebuia means "Ant Wood" and its from an abbreviation of "tacyba bebuya", a term used by the indigenous Tupi peoples of Brazil. **Tacyba** meaning **ant** and **bebuya** meaning **wood** ..  
In Brazil there is a toxic species of ant that have some sort of mutualistic relationship with certain trees

However the flowers are trumpet shaped. And beautiful.





An outstanding ornamental tree from the Caribbean. Tabebuias are native to South America including the Caribbean. With the greatest species diversity is in Cuba

The beauty and the beast of it is .

All parts of the trumpet tree are considered poisonous, including the roots, seeds, leaves, and flowers. The plant contains various toxic alkaloids causing muscle weakness, dry mouth, dilated pupils, and hallucinations. The biggest threat is the bright fruit-like seed pods and flowers.

Our species of *Tabebuia* be it. *Pallida* or sub sp. *heterophylla* have seed pods with around 300 winged seeds which allow it to spread. Its considered as an invasive in parts of their native Caribbean area as well as where its been introduced to Pacific and Indian Ocean islands. Considered by the Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International as aggressive pioneer species, So the four out front should grow quite well.

Mind you they are not friends with tomato plants .  
The tomato spotted wilt virus will kill them.