

## Golden Dewdrop

**Common name:** Golden dewdrop, Sky flower, Pigeon berry

**Botanical name:** *Duranta erecta* and *Duranta erecta variegata*

**Family:** Verbenaceae; **Name in Tamil:** ?



**Field identification:** Sprawling shrub or (infrequently) a small tree, up to 6 m (20 ft) tall. Mature specimens possess axillary thorns, which are often absent on younger specimens. Leaves are light green, elliptic to ovate, opposite, and grow up to 7.5 cm x 3.5 cm, with a 1.5 cm petiole. Flowers light-blue or lavender, produced in tight clusters located on terminal and axillary stems, blooming almost all year long. Fruit small globose, yellow or orange berry, up to 11 mm diameter and containing several seeds. Variegata variant has creamish yellow green foliage.

**Location on campus:** Used as a hedge. Seen as a tree in Mental Health, 751A2 Allai Road

### References:

1. Flowers of India. [www.flowersofindia.net](http://www.flowersofindia.net)
2. Wikipedia. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duranta\\_erecta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duranta_erecta)