



戶外通識教室：軟枝黃蟬-花苞似蟬蛹

Nature's Classroom: Allamanda's bud resembles cicada's dry shell

軟枝黃蟬，別名黃鶯。原產南美巴西，可作花架的蔭棚植物或庭園樹，喜歡高溫多濕的環境。夾竹桃科多年生常綠蔓性灌木，枝條柔軟下垂但不具攀緣性，高約6米。葉具短柄，三至四枚輪生，長橢圓形，全緣而微帶一波狀，葉面有光澤。四至十二月間開花，花苞的形狀和顏色均如即將羽化之蟬蛹，花色鮮黃，故名「軟枝黃蟬」。花冠鮮黃色，漏斗形，徑11cm，先端5裂，裂片近於圓形，冠筒細長，略呈彎曲，一側膨大，長約4cm。喉部具有淡紅色之線紋，雄蕊5枚，花絲極短。子房1室。花期長，花色豔，花形大而美，且栽培容易而廣受喜愛。因其植株內含有毒性的白色乳汁，不可隨意摘食或碰觸皮膚，誤食會引起嘔吐和瀉痢，並會發高燒、噁心、嘴唇紅腫、口乾舌燥；觸及皮膚，造成出紅疹現象，此所謂可遠觀而不可褻玩焉！

Allamanda (*Allamanda cathartica*)

A tropical twining vine with deeply veined, whorled leaves and large, trumpet shaped bright yellow flowers. Prickly seed pods follow the flowers with winged seeds that fly about when the pod dries and breaks open. Texture is coarse and leaves are bright to light green; the plant is often pruned and used as a shrub. The plant has milky sap and is considered poisonous, so just admire them from a distance, never handle callously!

