

Discover the Flora of Our Campus

Iris(Iris.)

Iris, commonly known as “süsən,” is a perennial ornamental plant distinguished by its delicate and eye-catching flowers. The dark purple varieties are especially notable for their deep, rich, and somewhat velvety appearance. The structure of its flowers is very intricate: three outer petals curve downward, while three inner petals stand upright, giving the flower a distinctive shape and symmetry. Its leaves are long, sword-shaped, and green, and the plant grows in a dense clump form.



The native range of this plant is mainly the temperate zones of the Northern Hemisphere—it is naturally distributed across Europe, Asia, and North Africa. Süsən has been cultivated since ancient times for both decorative and symbolic purposes. Historically, especially in France and Greece, it was regarded as a symbol of “elegance and nobility.” Today, it is widely used in garden and park landscaping in many countries around the world. In Azerbaijan, it can also be found in gardens and natural areas, particularly during the spring season.

Iris is a sun-loving plant and blooms more abundantly and vibrantly under full sunlight. The soil should be well-drained, nutrient-rich, and slightly moisture-retentive. Excess water can cause root



rot. The plant is generally hardy and thrives in temperate climates. Its flowering period occurs in late spring and early summer, when it becomes highly decorative.

In terms of human and ecological impact, iris mainly has aesthetic and landscape value. Its dark purple flowers create strong visual contrast in garden and park design. It attracts bees and other pollinating insects, thus positively contributing to the ecosystem. It is widely used in urban landscaping to create a graceful and colorful appearance. It evokes feelings of calm, harmony, and closeness to nature in people.

Its main uses are in gardening and decorative landscape design. It is widely used in flower beds, group plantings, and border compositions. It is also valuable as a cut flower in bouquets and floristry, as it retains its freshness for a long time. With its various colored varieties, it is ideal for creating seasonal color balance in gardens. Dark purple forms are especially chosen as “focal flowers.”

Interestingly, the name Iris is connected to the goddess of the rainbow in Greek mythology, which symbolizes its multicolored flowers. In many cultures, it is considered a symbol of wisdom, hope, and nobility. The shape of its flower was also used in heraldry and royal symbols in ancient times. It is regarded as one of the most elegant and symbolic garden flowers in the world.

