

# Discover the Flora of Our Campus

## *Senecio peregrinus*

*Senecio peregrinus* is a succulent ornamental plant commonly known as **String of Dolphins** or “dolphin necklace.” It is best known for its trailing stems, along which the leaves develop a unique shape resembling small jumping dolphins—its most distinctive feature. The foliage is usually light green to bluish-green, slightly fleshy, and smooth.




This plant is a hybrid within the *Senecio* genus and is mainly cultivated as an ornamental species. It is rarely found in the wild and is primarily grown as a houseplant or decorative succulent. It was developed through selective breeding of succulent forms originating from Asia and Africa and is commonly grown in hanging containers.

*Senecio peregrinus* prefers bright locations with indirect sunlight. In good light, the leaves grow denser and maintain a healthier appearance. It is drought-tolerant due to its water-storing succulent leaves. Watering should be infrequent and controlled, as overwatering can cause root rot. When grown in hanging pots, its stems cascade downward, creating a

decorative “green waterfall” effect.

In terms of human and ecological impact, this plant is mainly valued for its ornamental use. It is popular in indoor decoration and balcony gardening. While its



flowers may attract some pollinators, its main appeal is its unusual leaf shape. It creates a calm, aesthetic, and visually playful effect in living spaces.

Its main uses are in interior design and decorative gardening. It is commonly grown in hanging baskets, shelves, and balconies. It requires minimal care, making it popular among succulent enthusiasts. It also combines well with other succulents in decorative arrangements.

Interestingly, the dolphin-shaped leaves are a rare example of natural mimicry-like adaptation in ornamental plants, which has contributed to its popularity on social media. This leaf shape is actually a modified form adapted for water conservation typical of succulents.

