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**Philippine Flower:  The Bougainvillea**

1. **Its scientific name is bougainvillea spectabilis.**
2. **It is a thorny, woody shrub found in tropical regions.**
3. **It is a popular ornamental garden plant. It requires little watering, grows fast under the sun, blooms for the most part of the year and tends to be pest-resistant.**
4. **The flowers are very small and white in color, and they are surrounded by paper-thin, brightly colored bracts which may be red, orange, purple or white in color.**
5. **When in full bloom, bougainvillea plants are very attractive and provide a spectacular display of nature's wonder.**

**Philippine Flower: The Gumamela**

1. **Its English name is hibiscus and its scientific name is rosa sinensis.**
2. **It is a plant which belongs to the Malvaceae family and this family of plants has an estimated 250 species of herbs, shrubs and trees.**
3. **It is an erect, smooth shrub with ovate leaves. It is native to tropical regions and it is found throughout the Philippines. It can grow to a height of 4 meters.**
4. **It is a popular garden plant which requires regular watering.**
5. **It produces large, showy flowers and this is the reason why it is quite popular. Hibiscus is cultivated for its flowers which may be red, yellow, white or orange in color.**

**Philippine Flower: The Sampaguita**

1. **Its scientific name is Jasminum sambac and it is also known as the Arabian jasmine.**
2. **It is a plant which belongs to the Oleaceae family and this family of plants contains approximately 300 species of tropical and subtropical plants and shrubs which produce fragrant flowers. It is found throughout the Philippines.**
3. **It is a shrub which can grow to a height of 5 feet. It produces small flowers all year round. The flowers are white in color. They are shaped like stars and they produce highly fragrant scent for which the plant is known. It is for this reason, too, why the sampaguita is cultivated. The flowers are strung into garlands or corsages which are used --- often during official functions or important occasions ---- to welcome guests.**
4. **The sampaguita is the national flower of the Philippines and it symbolizes purity, simplicity and strength of character.**