

Sekkoku is a species of wild orchid (*Dendrobium moniliforme*) native to Northeast Asia, the Himalayas, and northern Indochina. The flowers were abundant in Matsushima until over-harvesting for use in perfume and other goods nearly wiped them out. Difficult to cultivate, sekkoku have only recently begun to make a comeback in the area thanks to advances in plant-breeding technology. Wild specimens, such as the flowers high in the branches of this cedar tree, remain rare. Sekkoku bloom in late May or early June.