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Activity #3

Compare and contrast these two plants, "Indigofera tinctoria" and "Scyphiphora hydrophyllacea".

- *Indigofera tinctoria*, also called true indigo, is a species of plant from the bean family that was one of the original sources of indigo dye. It has been naturalized to tropical and temperate Asia, as well as parts of Africa, but its native habitat is unknown since it has been in cultivation worldwide for many centuries. A number of early sources disagree, however, noting that the plant referred to as "nilad" is the Indigo plant (*Indigofera tinctoria*), a different plant altogether. *Scyphiphora* is a monotypic genus of flowering plants in the family Rubiaceae. It is the only genus in the tribe Scyphiphoreae and which has a large distribution range from India, to tropical Asia and the western Pacific. The term "Maynila" was said to be coined after the Yamstick Mangrove (*Scyphiphora hydrophyllacea*) or Nilad in local name. Nilad is a peculiar, stalky rice-like plant with flowers of bright white and yellow that was said to be abundant in the ancient kingdom.