



Emerald Goddess Gardens emeraldgoddessgardens.com

Botanical Name	Allamanda cathcartica Golden Butterfly
Common Name	Golden Butterfly
Plant Family	Apocynaceae
Mature Size	4 to 6 feet
Bloom Color	Bright Yellow
Bloom Period	Warm Season
Boom Form	Bell Shaped
Water	Moderate
Light	Best in full sun
USDA Zone	9, 10, 11
Fragrance	No
Uses	Hedge, Potted, Accent
Special Features	Bright color, easy to grow
Grower Notes:	All parts are generally considered toxic*



Allamanda cathcartica or **Golden Butterfly** is a nice medium sized, somewhat slower growing cultivar of the species. It bridges the gap between the *Dwarf Brown Bud* cultivar and the regular *Bush Allamanda* (*Allamanda schottii*) nicely as it grows a bit larger than the Dwarf, but a bit smaller than the Schotti. The branches are a bit longer and arching, but not so much as the sprawling vine-like types such as the *Brown Bud*.

It produces same bright, sunny, golden yellow, bell shaped blooms in the early summer to late fall, but with a slightly wavy edged, pinwheel shape with a distinctive white marking. The flowers are surrounded by standard dense, dark green leathery textured, pointed leaves.

Allamandas have many versatile uses in the subtropical and tropical landscape as a hedge or an accent plant. Its quick growth, bloomability, self sufficiency make it well suited for an annual filler, border or in mixed perennial beds, or as a potted plant in cooler climates.

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants into the landscape is not recommended, so for the best results with your new plant, replot it into a larger pot and allow it to grow a bit larger before setting it out.

When the new pot has filled with roots and it's ready to be planted, here are few hints for growing Bush Allamandas successfully in the landscape in Zones 9, 10, 11

- Locate in full sun
- Amend soil with rich organic material if needed
- Supply supplemental irrigation
- Feed a good quality bloom boosting plant food with the initial planting and twice yearly thereafter.
- Prune for shape after flowering
- Protect from frost and freeze.

Please email us with growing or planting questions at emeraldgoddessgardens@gmail.com You can check your USDA Zone on the map on our website emeraldgoddessgardens.com

*Toxicity information generally known within the horticultural trade or gardening circles is provided for reference purposes only. Medical and/or Horticultural experts in the field of study should be consulted for scientifically validated, detailed or emergency information.

This plant is intended for use as an ornamental, decorative item only. Emerald Goddess Gardens does not recommend, endorse nor offer the product for any other use.

Care of Your New Plant

Here are a few basic guidelines for handling and caring for your new plant:

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants or plugs directly into the landscape is not generally recommended, with a few exceptions. So, for the best results with your new plant we suggest that it be repotted into a larger pot and allowed to grow larger until the new pot is filled with roots before setting out.

Check the recommended USDA Zone Range for the plant. Many gardeners are able to successfully grow plants outside their recommended Zones, but this is dependent upon providing the type of environment and care the plant needs.

- Immediately repot the new plant into a 6 inch to 10 inch diameter pot. A 6 inch pot is recommended for starter plugs, and a 10 inch in recommended for 4 inch diameter starter pots.
- Use a good quality commercial bagged potting media.
- Apply a high quality, slow release plant food according to the label directions. Do not use hot, all chemical, quick release fertilizers like 6-6-6 or 10-10-10.
- Check the recommended location in the plant specifics and position accordingly. Note that plants that are suitable for growing in full sun should be acclimated, and young plants should be protected from direct, very hot sun while they are becoming established.
- Maintain consistent and uniform moisture in the soil. Take care not to over water. Some plants prefer to dry a bit between waterings, so check the plant specifics.
- Packing crystals may be re-used to conserve water, but do so with caution as they hold 6000 times their weight in water.
- If re-using crystals, mix and incorporate them thoroughly throughout the potting media.
- Be sure the pot can drain, and that the bottom of the pot does not sit submerged in water for more than a few hours.
- Monitor for signs of disease or insects and treat accordingly.
- Protect from frost and freeze, as even cold tolerant plants can be damaged by cold when young, or during cold conditions more severe or longer duration than the average for the Zone Range.
- Prune or pinch lightly and often when the plant is young and actively growing to strengthen the central stalk, encourage branching, and build uniform shape.
- Monitor for signs of disease or insects and treat accordingly

Many tropical and subtropical plants can be grown as potted plants indefinitely, and can be successfully wintered over indoors in colder climates, so long as they are moved indoors well ahead of temps into the 30°F's, are maintained in warm environment (minimum 40°F) with adequate, full spectrum light, consistent soil moisture is maintained, and any pest or disease issue are promptly and properly addressed.

For quick answers to any growing or planting questions, just email us at emeraldgoddessgardens@gmail.com.

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