



Emerald Goddess Gardens emeraldgoddessgardens.com

- Botanical Name: Bougainvillea glabra
- Common Name: Mrs. Eva Ice Cream
- Plant Family: Nyctaginaceae
- Mature Size: 10 – 15 ft.
- Growth Habit: Bush
- Bloom Color: Mauve
- Bloom Form: Bract
- Bloom Time: Spring
- Water Needs: Moderate
- Light Needs: Full Sun
- Recommended Zones: 9, 10, 11
- Key Features: Striking Variegated Leaves, Long Lasting Mauve Blooms
- Suggested Uses: Landscape Accent, Arbor Covering
- Growers Notes : When pruning this bush, be careful to avoid thorns.



Bougainvilleas were originally discovered growing in Brazil in 1768 by Admiral Louis de Bougainville. The plant rapidly gained popularity throughout the world and today is one of the most widely grown and prized tropical shrubs (vines) in the world. They grace most of the premiere arboretums and conservatories in the world. Bougainvilleas are so popular and loved that they have many devotees in very cold climates that grow them in pots and winter them over inside each year.

Since its introduction to the world more than 200 years ago many cultivars have been hybridized in a rainbow of colors and growth habits from huge aggressive climbers to slow growing mounding bedding plants.

The **Mrs. Eva** variety was hybridized in Japan developed further to become **Mrs. Eva's Ice Cream** from a variegated bud sport during propagation. This variety of bougainvillea is a compact, shorter growing plant with striking variegated leaves. During its 4 -6 week blooming period, this plant will produce gorgeous mauve blooms that may last for weeks.

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants is not recommended. We suggest repotting the starter into and allowing it to grow larger before setting it out. When the new pot has filled with roots, here are a few hints for growing Mrs. Eva's Ice Cream successfully within it's recommended USDA Zone Range.

- Plant in well draining soil.
- Locate in full sun
- Provide supplemental irrigation until well established.
- Prune lightly after flowering to encourage branching and shape.
- Feed a good quality bloom boosting fertilize with the initial planting and yearly thereafter.
- Protect from frost and freeze until very well established.
- Protect mature tree from high winds.

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

If you don't know your USDA Planting Zone, you can check the map on our website site at emeraldgoddessgardens.com

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 larger 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 fertilizes 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.

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