



## Emerald Goddess Gardens emeraldgoddessgardens.com

Botanical Name	<i>Ixora odorata</i> .
Common Name	Odorata
Mature Size	4 to 5 feet
Bloom Color	White to creamy beige
Bloom Period	Summer to Early Fall
Boom Form	Star Shaped Clusters
Water	Moderate
Light	Best in light shade
USDA Zone	9, 10, 11
Fragrance	None
Uses	Hedge, Accent, Specimen, Potted
Special Features	Lightly fragrant



Ixoras are attractive medium sized tropical shrubs that repeat bloom almost year round in tropical climates. The most common colors are shades of pink, reds, yellows, oranges, with only a few cultivars that flower white.

Odorata is unique a unique old heirloom cultivar that blooms white and has the unique distinction of being somewhat more cold tolerant than others and lightly fragrant.

The growth habit is tall, open and upright, maturing at about 4 to 5 feet tall if left to its own devices. It has large, dull green, elongated leaves with a prominent red vein that grow in opposing pairs.

This ixora blooms somewhat seasonally, with the peak bloom occurring in the late spring to early summer. It will frequently throw scattered flowers through out the warm season with another bloom cycle in the fall. Although Odorata is somewhat more cold tolerant than many ixora, it still will perform best with good protection from the cold. It can often withstand exposure to lower temps for a longer during, but generally does defoliate, burn back and suffer damage as a result.

The flowers are large 4 to 6 inch clusters of star shaped florets, that open slowly in bright pure white and then fade to a creamy, yellow-ivory as they age.

For the best results:

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants is not recommended, so for the best results with your new plant, we recommend it be repotted and allowed to grow larger before setting out in the landscape within the recommended USDA Zone range.

When the new pot has filled with roots and the plant is larger, then here a few hints for successful growing in the landscape. can be grown as a potted plant indefinitely.

- Plant in well draining, fertile, slightly acid soil
- Pick a location with light afternoon shade shade.
- Ideal location has direct light in the morning and lightly filtered shade in the afternoon.
- Dead head and prune lightly for shape after flowering
- Feed 2x yearly with a good quality slow release acid fertlize
- May be grown potted indefinitely
- Protect from frost and freeze

Ixoras prefer a soil rich in organics and slightly acidic in ph. They will grow in other higher ph soils, but generally need iron supplementation through foliar feeding to hold their leaf color. The flowers produce a rich nectar that is attractive to butterflies.

For quick answers to your growing or planting questions, just email us at [emeraldgoddessgardens@gmail.com](mailto:emeraldgoddessgardens@gmail.com) If you don't know your USDA Planting Zone, you can check the map on our website site at [emeraldgoddessgardens.com](http://emeraldgoddessgardens.com)

## **Care of Your New Ixora Plant**

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

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants directly into the landscape is not recommended. 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.

- Immediately unpack, remove the wrappings and shipping gel and discard the gell.
- Re-pot the new plant into a 6 inch to 10 inch diameter pot that can drain easily and thoroughly.
- Use a good quality commercial potting media. Ixoras prefer a slightly acid media.
- Apply a high quality, slow release plant food according to the label directions. A product formulated for acid loving plants is preferable. Do not use hot, all chemical fertilizes like 6-6-6 or 10-10-10.
- Locate so that the plant can receive direct, full spectrum light for several hours daily, but is protected from hot, direct afternoon sun until it grows large enough to plant.
- Maintain consistent and uniform moisture in the soil. Take care not to over water.
- Packing crystals may be reused to conserve water, but do so with caution as they hold 6000 times their weight in water.
- If reusing the 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 day.
- Supplement feed with a water soluble plant food (such as Miracle Grow) every 2-3 weeks according to the label directions.
- Prune or pinch lightly and often after flowering between July and September, when the plant is young and actively growing to strengthen the central stalk and encourage branching and build uniform shape. Note: Pruning in the Fall will decrease number of flowers in the Spring.
- Monitor for signs of disease, insects or nutritional deficiencies and treat accordingly.
- Protect from frost and freeze until well established.

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***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.***