



Emerald Goddess Gardens

emeraldgoddessgardens.com

Botanical Name	Cestrum elegans
Common Name	Day Blooming Jasmine
Mature Size	6'x6'
Bloom Color	Lilac purple
Bloom Period	Cyclic
Boom Form	Trumpet Shaped Clusters
Water	Moderate
Light	Full Sun
USDA Zone	Zone 8 to 11
Fragrance	Light Evening
Uses	Mixed Perennials
Special Features	Showy Repeat Bloomer



Purple Cestrum or Day Blooming Jasmine is a semi tropical flowering shrub that is native to South America that is related to the popular Night Blooming Jasmine, which is also a *cestrum*, not a true *jasmine*. Cestrums is also a relative of tobacco and potatoes (the *Solanaceae* plant family).

It will mature to a large upright bush with thin, fine, arching limbs. It blooms with showy, drooping, hanging, clusters of waxy textured, tubular lilac purple flowers that, unlike its night blooming cousin, are open during the day, and are also lightly fragrant at night. The flowers appear in cycles throughout the year in tropical climates, and throughout the warm season in the sub-tropics.

Purple Cestrum can be used as large flowing hedge, as background in layered beds, or mixed perennials. It makes a fine anchor or transitional plant when some height is needed, and can also be grown as a large potted plant indefinitely.

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants is not recommended. For the best results, we suggest potting the starter into a large pot and allowing the root system to better develop before setting it out within the recommended USDA Zone Range.

When the new pot has filled with roots, and the plant is ready to be planted, here a few helpful hints for successfully growing the *Purple Cestrum*:

- Plant in fertile, well draining, slightly acidic soil. Amend the planting area with high quality compost as required.
- Supply supplemental irrigation until very well established.
- Prune lightly and often while the plant is young and becoming established to build interior body and strength. Prune after flowering to maintain size and shape.
- Plant early in the season in Zones 8 and 9A, and mulch heavily well ahead of the first frost.
- Protect from freezing until very well established.

For quick answers to your growing or planting questions, just email us at emeraldgoddessgardens@gmail.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 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 the recommended size for starter plugs) that can drain easily and thoroughly.
- Use a good quality commercial potting media.
- Apply a high quality, slow release plant food according to the label directions. Do not use hot, all chemical fertilizers 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.
- 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 few hours.
- Supplement feed with a water soluble plant food every 2-3 weeks according to the label directions.
- Prune or pinch lightly and often when the plant is young and actively growing to strengthen the central stalk and encourage branching and build uniform shape.
- 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, and tropicals will perform better, flower earlier, and live longer within their Zone Range when protected from cold temperatures.

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.

You can check you USDA Zone by visiting our website at emeraldgoddessgardens.com