

**Emerald Goddess Gardens**  
**emeraldgoddessgardens.com**

Botanical Name	Plumbago coccinea
Common Name	Rosy Leadwort, Red Plumabago, Laurel, Xie saniang
Mature Size	3 ft x 3 ft
Bloom Color	Orange Red
Bloom Period	Spring, Fall
Boom Form	Five petal
Water	Moderate
Light	Light Shade
USDA Zone	8, 9, 10, 11
Fragrance	No
Uses	Mixed Perennial Beds, Potted, Butterflies, Hummingbirds
Special Features	Showy color, easy to grow



**Scarlet Plumbago** is an upright, spreading, loose, open growing semi tropical flowering shrub that flowers in the late Spring and Fall with bright red five petaled phlox like flowers that are born on long wildflower like stalks above the main body of the plant. It is known by several common names, including *Red and Crimson Plumbago, Rosy Leadwort, Laurel and Xie san niang.or Zi hua teng.*

It is frequently also referenced under the botanical names of *Plumbago rosea, plumbago indica, and Theia coccinea.* It is native to Asia and is widely cultivated as an ornamental in the *Phillipines*, but is rarely found in commercial culture in the United States.

It is an easy to grow plants with a number of versatile uses for tropical and subtropical landscapes. It makes an attractive addition to mixed perennial beds and mixed garden pots. It is a good choice for hummingbird and butterflies and shade gardens.

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size pots is not generally recommended, so for the best results with your new plant, we recommend repotting it and allowing it to grow larger before setting out.

When the new pot has filled with roots and the plant has grown a bit larger, here are some hints for successful growing of Red Plumbago in the tropical to subtropical landscape:

- Plant in fertile, well draining soil. Amend with high quality compost as need.
- Locate in light shade.
- Supply supplemental irrigation until very well established.
- Feed a good quality slow release fertilize with the initial planting and twice yearly in the early spring and fall thereafter.
- Prune for shape and to encourage branching after flowering.
- Plant early in the season in Zones 8 and 9B
- Protect from frost and freeze until very well established.

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 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 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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