

TROPICAL VINES

HUMBER NURSERIES 'GREEN THUMB GUIDE'



BOUGAINVILLEA AND OTHER TROPICAL FLOWERING VINES

With the architecture of our homes changing to make room for indoor gardening, we can decorate walls, windows, overheads and obelisks with climbing vines. Humber Nurseries has Bougainvillea, Passion Flower, Mandevillea, Jasmine and much more.

BOUGAINVILLEA: *Nyctaginaceae*

A vigorous vine from Brazil with showy, paper-like floral bracts in white, pink, purple, peach, orange, yellow or lavender and an insignificant white star-shaped flower. Several cultivars are now available with beautifully variegated foliage such as 'Raspberry Ice', which is a compact variety, ideal for container gardens.

'Barbara Kurst' is probably the most dependable bougainvillea and is a strong vine with a longer bloom time. 'Don Mario' is a red-dark purple variety, which is drought tolerant.

Bougainvillea



- LIGHT:** Requires full sun or bright light for at least 5 hours a day. Full spectrum indoor light bulbs are available to compensate for low light conditions.
- HUMIDITY:** Greenhouse humidity is best. Increase humidity by misting leaves (not floral bracts) or placing the potted plant on a pebble tray full of water.
- TEMPERATURE:** 65 to 75 degrees F for growth
40 degrees F for survival in dormant state.
- WATER & FEEDING:** Water about three times a week, but never let the roots sit in water. During the winter months, let soil almost dry then water thoroughly discarding the excess drainage. Do not let soil dry completely or dormancy will set in and all the leaves and blooms will drop off. Use a moisture meter during the winter months so the soil does not dry completely.
- Feed with 30-10-10 to promote shoot growth in the spring. Use 15-30-15 to encourage flowering in the summer and use half-strength 30-10-10 in the winter.
- PRUNING:** These vigorous thorny vines can take up a lot of space indoors. Prune back the long branches in autumn after blooming. Canes can be trained on wire forms, trellises and arbours for best results. Canes can reach up to 6 m long.
- PROPAGATION:** Use stem cuttings with Stim Root #2 and bottom heat for best results.

PROBLEMS:

If your plant fails to produce blooms - increase light.

Flowers usually follow a spring response to rainfall after a dry period.

If you find yellowing leaves - check for root rot caused by over watering.

Make sure that the plant is never left standing in water.

If you find masses of white fluff similar to cotton – This is usually mealy bug; use

anspray such as Insecticidal Soap or Trounce.

If you have all growth stop or drop off - this may happen after repotting.

Be very careful when repotting never to disturb the roots as they are very

brittle. Bougainvilleas prefer deep pots. Prune back the bare canes 2 to 3 inches and do not over water. Allow the plant to come out of dormancy.



Bougainvillea

MANDEVILLA *Apocynaceae*



A member of the Oleander and Vinca family. Mandevilla is also referred to as Dipladema. A beautiful evergreen vine with dark green leathery leaves and five-petaled trumpet flowers. Many hybrids are available with parentages being unknown.

The most popular Mandevillas are 'Alice du Pont' and 'Red Riding Hood'. All of these vines need support for the fast growing twining branches.

Mandevilla

'Summer Snow'

Mandevilla x amabilis monte

Grows 5 – 6 metres tall with pure white blooms in warmer temperatures and pink flowers in cooler temperatures.

'Alice du Pont'

Mandevilla x amabilis M. splendens

Grows 4 – 5 metres tall with lovely deep pink flowers.

'Red Riding Hood'

Mandevilla x amabilis M. sanderi

Better spreading habit with smaller glossy leaves. Five-petaled flowers are red to deep pink with a yellow throat and flexed tips.

LIGHT:

Sun to partial shade.

TEMPERATURE:

Needs warm temperatures of 65 degrees F and above all year. Plant will go dormant at 30 degrees F.

WATER & FEEDING:

Consistent moisture encourages continuous flowering if fertilized twice monthly with 20-20-20 and 15-30-15 during bloom time. Feed with liquid Sea Kelp and Fish Emulsion once a month. Check moisture every 1 to 3 days.



Mandevilla

JASMINE

A very large group of evergreen vines or shrubs with heavily scented, star-shaped 6 to 7 petalled flowers in white, pink and yellow. These vines grow well when trained around a wire hoop or topiary form.

Some Available Cultivars:

Mesnyi:	Double, lemon yellow flowers with small light green foliage. A dainty vine that requires good support.
Multiflorum:	(pubescens) White lightly scented flowers all year. Tolerates heavy pruning and will keep blooming.
Nitidum:	Large windmill-like white flowers on a semi-vining evergreen shrub. Large angel wing glossy foliage.
Polyanthum:	Vigorous evergreen (sometimes deciduous) vine with light green lacy foliage. Produces an abundance of pink flower buds opening to a delicate and very fragrant white flower. Vine can grow up to 3 m. if left unpruned. Blooms through spring and summer.
Sambac:	'Grand Duke' or Arabian Jasmine. Compact evergreen vine growing 1.25 – 1.5 m. tall. Best in full sun. Fragrant button-like double white flowers. Minimum temperature 30 degrees F.

LIGHT: Bright light but not direct sun.

HUMIDITY: Mist daily but avoid water on any open blooms.

TEMPERATURE: Optimum summer temperature is 60 to 65 degrees F with good ventilation. Optimum temperatures during winter flowering time 55 degrees F with minimum temperatures reaching no lower than 45 to 50 degrees F.

WATER & FEEDING: Water every 4 to 5 days when blooming and 2 to 3 times a week in the summer months. Keep the soil moist but not water logged. Water only when the soil surface dries out.

PRUNING: Feed every 14 days in the spring and summer months. Repot after flowering is finished and prune back as needed

Star Jasmine

Trachelospermum jasminoides

Requires full to part sun and regular watering when top 3 inches of soil dries. Deep root systems require deep planters. Minimum temperature 20 to 40 degrees F. Grows 3 – 4 m. tall.

Swamp Jasmine

Gelsemium rankinii

A fast growing vine 3 – 6 m. tall with fragrant bright yellow five-lobed trumpet flowers. Minimum temperature 0 degrees F.

Grand Duke or Arabian Jasmine

Jasmine Sambac

Requires 3 hours or more direct sun, (avoid mid-day sun) keep humid, and provide cool nights. Prefers acidic conditions.



Gelsemium

PASSIFLORA

Passifloraceae

A member of the Passion Flower family. Beautiful two-level flowers are formed on this lush green vine. The central column of the flower is called the androgynophore and contains colourful male and female parts.

Passion fruits are technically a many-seeded berry and may be quite large depending on the climate and variety. All are edible, but not all are delicious.

PASSIFLORA CAERULEA

A passion flower vine that is hardy and fast growing. The beautiful flowers are blue, purple and white. Several hybrids and cultivars exist mostly grown as indoor plants. Available as seeds or seedlings.



Passiflora

PASSIFLORA INCARNATA

Also known as Maypop, Wild Passion Flower and May Vine.

One of the hardiest varieties with five-lobed leaves with fine serration. A popular variety with flowers of pure lilac colour. The exotic fringed flowers have a rich strong scent. The fruit is yellow and quite sweet. Requires 4 hours of sun daily, warm temperatures (60 to 75 degrees F.) and moist soil.

PASSIFLORA COCCINEA

Often called the Red Granadilla because of the sweet orange fruit. This vine is native to South America, and it has pure scarlet-red flowers.

PASSIFLORA VITIFOLIA

A large vigorous vine from Central America with rich green scalloped leaves and deep red flowers with reflexed petals and a purple corona. The velvety fruit that follows is quite edible.

LIGHT: Partial sun.

HUMIDITY: Enjoys high humidity. Mist with liquid Sea Kelp.

TEMPERATURE: Minimum 60 degrees F.

WATER & FEEDING: Needs well drained soil. Water and feed regularly 2 to 3 times a week during growing season. Use a moisture meter during summer months. Check once every day or two depending on location of plant.

PRUNING: Prune after flowering is finished (this is also the ideal time to repot if necessary). The vine grows very large and may need an arbour or trellis for support after several years.

PROPAGATION: Stem cuttings in the summer with Stim Root #2 and bottom heat for best results. Success is possible when started from seed.

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