Common Jasmine

Jasminum officinale



Common Jasmine flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 15 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Poet's Jasmine, Jessamine, Poet's Jessamine

Description:

An outstanding, semi-evergreen climbing shrub with a vigorous habit; fragrant, white star flowers appear in late spring or early summer; perfect for training over trellises or walls; tolerates part shade; winter protection advised

Ornamental Features

Common Jasmine is covered in stunning fragrant white star-shaped flowers held atop the branches from late spring to early fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its small oval pinnately compound leaves emerge light green in spring, turning forest green in colour the rest of the year.

Landscape Attributes

Common Jasmine is a dense multi-stemmed annual with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Common Jasmine is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Common Jasmine will grow to be about 15 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. As a climbing vine, it should either be planted near a fence, trellis or other landscape structure where it can be trained to grow upwards on it, or allowed to trail off a retaining wall or slope. Although it's not a true annual, this plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This species is not originally from North America.

Common Jasmine is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.