

Lavender, *Trumpet Vine*

The Lavender Trumpet Vine, native to Brazil and Argentina, is not often seen in Arriyadh, but certainly has great potential for garden use, as seen in many gardens in arid regions. It is also remarkably frost-tolerant to -7°C , although it will become deciduous and will generally recover, even when frozen to the ground, from its hardy, fleshy roots. It will do best in light shade, and reflected sun should be avoided. This vine will grow up to over 6 m long. The green leaves have two leaflets, and the pinkish-lilac flowers up to 8 cm in diameter have purple veins, appearing from spring to summer. Regular watering is necessary during the growth period and moderate for the rest of the time: overwatering should be avoided. Growing in most garden soils with good drainage, a deep, extensive root system should be encouraged and a general-purpose fertiliser should be applied in early spring, and then again in early summer. Propagation is best by semi-hardwood cuttings in summer, but scarified seed or layering are also possible. The cuttings strike easily. Pruning is best in late winter to control growth or to induce new growth from lower down. Chlorosis can be a problem, especially in spring. Generally pest- and disease-resistant, *C. callistegioides* is a very attractive vine with a tropical look, which will enhance a private garden where it has the space to develop. It grows particularly well over walls and fences: its tendrils attach themselves easily to chain-link fences, for example. It is also very suitable for shade structures.



GENERAL

Origin	: tropical
Vigour	: slow-growing
Humidity	: semi-humid, very humid
Propagation	: sowing and pricking out, cuttings, layer
Maintenance	: high

CONDITIONS

Urban climate	: resistant
Dessication	: vulnerable
Stagnant water	: vulnerable
Irrigation	: high
Salinity/ppm	: moderate (1500 ppm)
Hardiness	: -6°C

SHAPE

Type	: climbers
Height	: 1 m-6 m
Spread	: 2 m-5 m
Foliage	: evergreen, semi-evergreen

FLOWER

Colour	: lilac, violet, yellow
Size	: 6 cm - 8 cm
Period	: April - July

FRUIT

Type of fruit	: capsule
Fruit size	: 10 cm
Toxicity	: inedible