

Petunia

Petunia has no other common name. Its area of distribution is South America. This ornamental plant is popular as a winter bedding plant in Arriyadh. It is a prostrate annual which normally grows in tropical or sub-tropical areas. It reaches a height of 15 cm, but the many branches grow usually to a length of 70 cm, creeping over the ground. The leaves are fresh green and they have an entire and ovate shape. The attractive hornlike flowers are between 5 and 8 cm in size. They are available in many different colours such as red, yellow and purple. All parts of the plant are slightly sticky. Petunias do not like stagnant water; their roots will start to rot, and they will start to fail. Nevertheless, they need sufficient irrigation with a low salinity content. Petunias are propagated by cuttings. This ornamental plant can withstand urban microclimates and temporary desiccation. It will yield attractive plant arrangements in pedestrian precincts, container planting, urban areas, public open spaces and street planting, as well as in parks or private gardens. This plant can be used as edging plant, for linear planting, as a groundcover or for grouped or massed planting.



GENERAL

Origin	: sub-tropical, tropical
Humidity	: semi-arid, semi-humid
Propagation	: sowing and pricking out
Maintenance	: moderate

CONDITIONS

Urban climate	: resistant
Dessication	: vulnerable
Stagnant water	: vulnerable
Irrigation	: high
Salinity/ppm	: low (700 ppm)
Hardiness	: +3°C

SHAPE

Type	: annual
Height	: 0.15 m-0.25 m
Spread	: 0.2 m-0.8 m
Foliage	: evergreen, evergreen, evergreen

FLOWER

Colour	: yellow, red, purple, pink, violet, blue, white, secondary: yellow
Size	: 5 cm - 8 cm
Period	: April - November

FRUIT

Type of fruit	: capsule
Fruit size	: 1 cm