

MORNING GLORY BUSH

Ipomoea fistulosa



Characteristics

- Type: Annual
- Zone: 9 -11
- Height: 10 to 15 feet in height if allowed to growth unrestricted
- Spread: 4 -5 feet
- Bloom Time: Summer flowering accent
- Bloom Description: Flowers are funnel-shaped borne in small clusters
- Sun: Full
- Water: Need copious water to maintain a vigorous look
- Maintenance: Low
- Flower: Flowers bloom in clusters and often produces a mini-bouquet.
- Attracts: Butterflies
- Tolerant: Heat but freeze sensitive

Culture

Also known as Morning Glory bush, it is an erect, sparsely branched shrub growing about 8 feet tall. The flowers of most morning-glories are basically similar in shape, and many are colored lavender or purple, but all other native and naturalized species are vines. This plant, a shrub, is quite distinctive, and it should not be confused with any other species.

Noteworthy Characteristics

The leaves have a long stalk (petiole), and the essentially hairless leaf blades are lanceolate, 5 to 8 inches long, about 2 inches broad, and have a long-tapering tip and a truncated or shallowly heart-shaped base. The funnel-shaped flowers are borne in small clusters in the axils of the uppermost leaves. These flowers, opening only in the morning, have five shallow lobes and are 3 to 4 inches across. The fused petals are pink to lavender or purple, but darker in the throat. Dormant during winter changing to rapid growth during warm season growing in a single season to 10 to 15 feet in height if allowed to growth unrestricted, multiple basal stems.

Problems

Susceptible to orange blister beetle.

Garden Uses

Flowering accent shrub for tropical and subtropical garden color in “old fashioned” gardens.