

Madagascar jasmine



Stephanotis floribunda syn. *S. jasminoides* (Madagascar jasmine, waxflower, Hawaiian wedding flower, bridal wreath) is a species of flowering plant in the family Apocynaceae, native of Madagascar. Growing to 6 m (20 ft) or more, it is an evergreen woody climber with glossy, leathery oval leaves and clusters of pure white, waxy, intensely fragrant tubular flowers. In areas where the outside winter temperature drops below 4 °C (39 °F), *Stephanotis floribunda* can be wintered over in greenhouse or household settings.

Madagascar's climate, with its moderate temperatures, high humidity and seasonal cycles of hot, wet summers and cool, dry winters provides the optimal growing conditions for *Stephanotis*. Grown commercially, the trumpet-shaped blooms are in season year-round, provided they are given enough light and water, and are a popular component of bridal bouquets. It is a vigorous climber, tough-stemmed, bearing dark green leathery leaves, which grow in pairs at regular intervals along the vine. It grows best in sunny, tropical conditions, or inside. It can flourish for years, grown indoors on a sunny windowsill. Plants can be moved outside or into a greenhouse during the summer.

Few resources are published relating to the culture of this woody vine. In areas where the outside winter temperature drops below 4 °C (39 °F), *Stephanotis floribunda* can be wintered over in greenhouse or household settings. During the summer growth season, this vine requires full sun, abundant water, high humidity and a balanced fertilizer. The vine will need to be trellised due to the vigorous growth habit. As temperatures begin to cool, pots should be brought indoors and placed in the sunniest location available. If the temperature in the home is on the cool side, the vines slow in their growth and thus should be watered very infrequently. Kept on the cool, sunny and dry side, the plants will "rest" until the outside temperatures begin to rise again, at which time they may be eased back into full sun. They may continue to grow during this period, but it is often slower and less vigorous.

Category: Outdoor flowering plants

Families: Apocynaceae

Genus: *Stephanotis* (= *Marsdenia*)

Species: *floribunda*

Geographical Area of Origin: Madagascar



Climatic Zones: Tropical USDA 11

Habit: Shrub-climber

Leaves: Evergreen

Colore Foglie: Verde

Flowering Period: Aprile / Maggio / Giugno / Luglio / Agosto / Settembre

Flower: Tubular

Colore Fiori: Bianco

Favorite soil: Sub-acid / medium acid / Light sandy / Middle-Dough / Medium soil

Water needs: Aboundant water / Medium

Light Exposure: Medium shade / Half shade / Full light / Full sun

Form: Espalier / Pyramid / Double arch shaped

Colore Frutti: Marrone

Parfumed: yes