

## *Allamanda blanchetii*: Purple Allamanda<sup>1</sup>

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<https://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/>

*This document is part of a series originally authored by Edward F. Gilman.*

### Introduction

Purple allamanda (Figure 1) is an evergreen vine or climbing shrub with 3-inch-long, funnel-shaped blooms (Figure 2), which are reddish-purple fading to pink, giving a two-toned effect. The light green, pubescent leaves are arranged in whorls on weak, sprawling stems (Figure 3). Seed pods are spiky capsules, which turn brown once mature (Figure 4). While it can be allowed to rapidly cover an arbor or other support structure, with careful pruning, purple allamanda can also make an attractive free-standing shrub. It is often used to cover the base of a mailbox or pole. Allamanda has a cascading effect when planted near the edge of a wall, or is suitable for a large hanging basket. This plant is also well suited as a groundcover, or for a container/above ground planter. Rapid growth creates a sprawling form with individual shoots growing alone, away from the rest of the plant. Regular pinching of the new growth will keep the plant fuller and within bounds but should be done when buds are not visible on the plants to maximize the blooms. Over-pruning this plant will decrease flowering, as the plant generally blooms on new growth.



Figure 1. Full form—*Allamanda blanchetii*: purple allamanda.

Credit: © Supratim Deb, some rights reserved (CC BY-NC-ND) via iNaturalist



Figure 2. Flower—*Allamanda blanchetii*: purple allamanda.

Credit: © Subhajit Roy, some rights reserved (CC BY-NC-ND) via iNaturalist



Figure 3. Leaf—*Allamanda blanchetii*: purple allamanda.

Credit: © Víctor de Paiva, some rights reserved (CC BY-NC-ND) via iNaturalist



Figure 4. Fruit—*Allamanda blanchetii*: purple allamanda.

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## General Information

**Scientific name:** *Allamanda blanchetii*

**Previous name(s):** *Allamanda violacea*

**Pronunciation:** al-luh-MAN-duh blan-chet-E-eye

**Common name(s):** purple allamanda

**Family:** *Apocynaceae*

**Plant type:** vine; shrub; groundcover

**USDA hardiness zones:** 9B through 11B (Figures 5 and 6)

## USDA Hardiness Zones 9B-11A

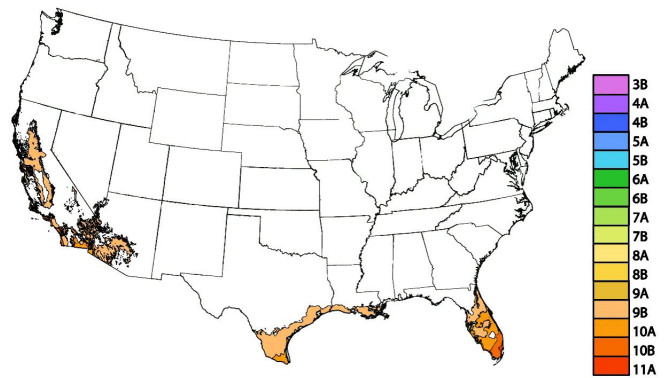


Figure 5. Shaded area represents potential planting zone—USDA Hardiness Zones 9B-11A; 11B within planting zone but not pictured on map.

Credit: This map is based on the 2023 USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map. Visit

<https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/> for specific zone information.

## USDA Hardiness Zones 9B-11A

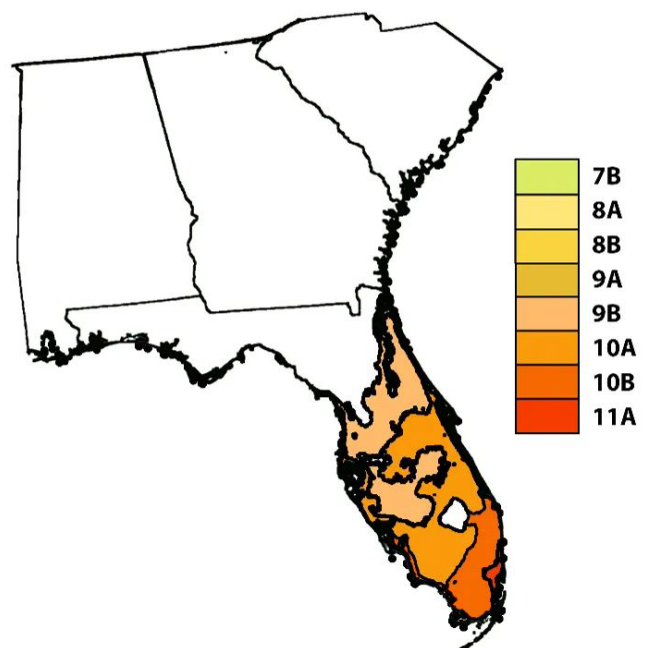


Figure 6. Shaded area represents potential planting zone in the SE Region—USDA Hardiness Zones 9B-11A; 11B within planting zone but not pictured on map.

Credit: This map is based on the 2023 USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map. Visit

<https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/> for specific zone information.

**Planting month for zone 9:** year-round

**Planting month for zones 10 and 11:** year-round

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Invasive potential:** not known to be invasive

**Uses:** container or above-ground planter; ground cover; cascading down a wall; large hanging basket; veils a trellis

**Availability:** generally available in many areas within its hardiness range

## Description

**Height:** depends upon supporting structure

**Spread:** depends upon supporting structure

**Plant habit:** spreading

**Plant density:** moderate

**Growth rate:** moderate

**Texture:** coarse

## Foliage

**Leaf arrangement:** whorled

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf margin:** entire

**Leaf shape:** elliptic (oval)

**Leaf venation:** brochidodromous

**Leaf type and persistence:** evergreen

**Leaf blade length:** 4 to 8 inches

**Leaf color:** green

**Fall color:** no fall color change

**Fall characteristic:** not showy

## Flower

**Flower color:** lavender; purple; reddish-purple; pink

**Flower characteristic:** year-round flowering

## Fruit

**Fruit shape:** capsule

**Fruit length:** 1 to 3 inches

**Fruit cover:** dry or hard

**Fruit color:** green; brown when dry

**Fruit characteristic:** inconspicuous and not showy; spiky

## Trunk and Branches

**Trunk/bark/branches:** not particularly showy; typically multi-trunked or clumping stems

**Current year stem/twig color:** green

**Current year stem/twig thickness:** medium

## Culture

**Light requirement:** plant grows in full sun; plant grows in partial shade

**Soil tolerances:** occasionally wet; acidic; slightly alkaline; clay; sand; loam

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

**Soil salt tolerance:** low

**Plant spacing:** 36 to 60 inches

## Other

**Roots:** not applicable

**Winter interest:** plant has winter interest due to unusual form; evergreen foliage; year-round flowering

**Pest resistance:** no serious pests are normally seen on the plant

**Toxicity:** all parts of this plant are considered toxic; sap may cause dermatitis; plant has cathartic effects if ingested

## Use and Management

Purple allamanda produces best growth and blooms when planted in full-sun locations. This plant should be planted in frost-free sheltered locations in nematode-free soil; however, it may be planted in a variety of soil types. Water plants generously until well-established. Pruning may be needed to keep this plant in a desired shape or within bounds of the planting area. Purple allamanda is a highly adaptable plant to use in the landscape in a variety of ways. Its evergreen leaves and year-round flowers bring added interest and lend a tropical feel to the landscape. It may be used to veil a trellis, cascade down a wall, espalier; or grown in a container or large hanging basket. With maintenance, this plant also makes a suitable specimen plant or shrub. Use caution around children and pets as all parts of this plant are toxic.

Propagation is by cuttings.

## Design Considerations

The purple allamanda works well as a background or massing plant when grown on a trellis or fence to block undesirable views or fill gaps along walls. It can also be used to add interest to an arbor or pole. The medium-size, light green foliage of the allamanda shows well with contrasting plant features such as large leaves, coarse texture, thick stems, and dark green or burgundy color. The loose, sprawling form of the vine contrasts with neat plants such as the clumping, arching forms of grasses and other vase-shaped, small-leaved shrubs. Low-growing

groundcover with a mounding or matting form will emphasize the upright form of a trained allamanda on a trellis or arbor. To create a large plant mass along a fence, select other vines with a variety of flower colors, such as white, pink, or yellow to mix with the allamanda for more interest.

## Pests and Diseases

Minor (occasional) pest issues include scale, mites, and nematodes. No diseases of major concern.

<sup>1</sup> This document is FPS 32, one of a series of the Department of Environmental Horticulture, UF/IFAS Extension. Original publication date September 1999. Revised August 2018 and November 2025. Visit the Ask IFAS website at <https://ask.ifas.ufl.edu/> for the currently supported version of this publication. *To learn more about creating and maintaining attractive landscapes that protect Florida's water and natural resources, visit [ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/).*

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