

Alyogyne species

Alyogyne hakeifolia – Pink and Black Hibiscus

Alyogyne huegelii – Lilac Hibiscus

PINK AND BLACK HIBISCUS – ALYOGYNE HAKEIFOLIA

Very similar to the Lilac Hibiscus, it flowers in late spring and again in the fall. It is suited to inland and Mediterranean type climates but will adapt to most climates other than truly tropical. Plant in the sun in any well drained garden soil. One of the advantages of this plant is that once it is established it is drought resistant and can tolerate arid low rainfall areas with rainfall as low as 250mm, although it flowers more profusely with summer watering. Fully grown it reaches about 2m. Prune to avoid straggleness. Native to South Australia and Western Australia.

This Hibiscus is very closely related to the Lilac Hibiscus although it is a little more cold tolerant, has large pink flowers with dark centres and thinner more pine like foliage. The propagation, cultivation and general notes for this species are as for the lilac hibiscus.

LILAC HIBISCUS – ALYOGYNE HUEGELII

Alyogyne huegelii is an open, spreading shrub 1 - 2.5m high by 1 - 3m wide with lobed leaves. This plant is quick growing and benefits from pruning after flowering. The hibiscus-like flowers, which appear in Spring, Summer and Autumn, are 7 - 10 cm in diameter. A. huegelii is a hardy and adaptable shrub which enjoys full sun to part shade. It prefers well drained sand, loam or clay soils and tolerates a wide range of pH, from acidic to alkaline (pH 8). It is lime, drought and frost tolerant. Alyogyne huegelii has habitat value for birds.

Propagation

Pre-treatment – Alyogyne have a hard seed coat so scarification must be carried out. Rubbing with sandpaper or nicking the seed will the hard protective coating and allow moisture to penetrate.

Germination will be much quicker after this pre-treatment.

Sowing – In areas with harsh Winters, sow seed in Spring, and in areas with wet Summers and mild Winters, seed can be sown in Autumn.

Cover seed lightly with seed raising mix , water in well.

Keep moist in a warm and bright area and seed will germinate over a period of time.