

## Mandevilla suaveolens – Chilean Jasmine

A tender, woody-stemmed, twining evergreen (deciduous in cool climates) climber with ovate to oblong, glossy, dark green leaves and, from summer to early autumn, racemes of fragrant, tubular, creamy white flowers with rounded, often crimped petal lobes.

Mandevilla suaveolens is native to southern Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, and northern Argentina.

Mature Height: up to 6 m

Hardy to -12.2°C

Sun: Full Sun to Part Shade.

Foliage: Leaves are long or oblong, smooth textured and dark green with bluish undersides.

Flowers: Heavenly white blooms make Chilean Jasmine a garden knockout throughout the summer and autumn. Clustered flowers appear amongst shiny, green tapered leaves. These blooms are 5cm long and flare open to 6.5 cm wide and sweetly scented.

Bloom Colour: Pure White

The flowers are followed by pairs of long bean-like fruit pods.

This plant is attractive to bees, butterflies and birds.

As with most vines and climbers, Chilean Jasmine's foliage is great for masking unsightly walls or other surfaces. If trellised, it can spread up to 5 m, and the reflective heat will be beneficial to flowering. In colder climates, some gardeners prefer to plant it in containers so it can be moved inside for winter.

As a twining vine, Chilean Jasmine requires additional support in order to grow. Unlike wisteria Chilean Jasmine will not spread as forcefully or do damage to structures. If the plant becomes too tangled or messy, thin it or cut it back in late winter. It will re-sprout in spring. Chilean Jasmine's tolerance of and ability to flower under cooler conditions make it a wise choice for temperate garden climates.

Toxicity: All parts may cause stomach upset if ingested.

## Propagation

Soak the seeds in water for about twelve hours prior to sowing.

Sow seeds in a well-draining seed raising mix. Seeds should be scattered across the surface of the medium and then only lightly covered. It is best to initially water from below to avoid disturbing the seed.

Maintain the growing medium in a lightly moist state and keep in at a temperature between 18 and 24°C.

Place your seedling tray or pot in bright, indirect light.

Germination in 21 to 35 days.

