

ARABIAN JASMINE

Jasminum sambac is an evergreen flowering vine or shrub that can reach up to 10 feet tall. The genus belongs to the olive family or *Oleaceae*. It is a widely cultivated and known genus with numerous different cultivars; though there are approximately five that are commonly available on the retail market. These plants have a sweet, aromatic fragrance and have been used in perfumes and beauty products for centuries. Although there is a misconception that the plants are of Arabian origin, they can indeed be traced across the globe, most notably in warmer regions such as Southeast Asia, India, and Central America. Arabian jasmine is also the national flower of the Philippines. These plants were first formally described by Carl Linnaeus in 1753 as *Nyctanthes sambac*, a name that was later reclassified. Arabian jasmine is often grown as a specimen houseplant and has very few special requirements, making them perfect for any indoor gardener.



Latin Name: *Jasminum sambac*
Type: Evergreen flowering tropical houseplant
Hardiness: Zone 10-11, not frost hardy
Size: 3' x 10'
Exposure: Bright light
Growth Rate: Fast
Growth Habit: Mounding or vining

Where should I plant my Arabian jasmine?

Arabian jasmine appreciate fertile, well-draining soil and bright light. Although they are not frost hardy they make an excellent houseplant with their lovely evergreen leaves and sprays of white, fragrant blooms. Repot your jasmine about once every two years or when the plant has outgrown its container. You can prune your Arabian jasmine back as needed after flowering to create a bushy growth habit or to achieve a specific shape.

How much water will my Arabian jasmine need?

Because Arabian jasmine is a flowering plant, they appreciate consistent moisture and well-draining soil. Often if the plant becomes too dry its flowers and leaves will wilt. Check your plant often for water, and if the top 2" of soil is dry, it's time to water.

When should I fertilize my Arabian jasmine?

They enjoy being fertilized with a balanced fertilizer once per month in a water-soluble format. To fertilize less often you may also use a slow release balanced granular fertilizer.

Are there any pests or diseases I should be aware of?

Some common pests and diseases that may plague Arabian jasmine are blight, rust, and Fusarium wilt. They may also be affected by mealy mugs, white flies, or scale. Pests can be treated with insecticidal soap and diseases may be treated with a houseplant systemic or fungicide.