



Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

***Mandevilla sanderi* 'Red Riding Hood'¹**

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Introduction

Quickly twining around any support, or pinched to create a handsome hanging specimen, 'Red Riding Hood' Allamanda is an attractive evergreen vine endowed with beautiful, deep red, funnellform blooms up to 4 inches wide and 2 inches long, set off against dark green, large evergreen leaves. It is a popular cultivar of Mandevilla.

General Information

Scientific name: *Mandevilla sanderi* 'Red Riding Hood'

Pronunciation: man-dev-VILL-luh SAN-der-rye

Common name(s): 'Red Riding Hood' Allamanda

Family: *Apocynaceae*

Plant type: vine

USDA hardiness zones: 10 through 11 (Fig. 1)

Planting month for zone 10 and 11: year round

Origin: not native to North America

Uses: hanging basket; cascading down a wall

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: dense

Growth rate: moderate

Texture: coarse

Foliage

Leaf arrangement: opposite/subopposite

Leaf type: simple

Leaf margin: undulate

Leaf shape: elliptic (oval)

Leaf venation: pinnate

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: red

Flower characteristic: year-round flowering; pleasant fragrance

Fruit

Fruit shape: elongated

Fruit length: unknown

Fruit cover: dry or hard

Fruit color: brown

Fruit characteristic: inconspicuous and not showy

Trunk and Branches

Trunk/bark/branches: typically multi-trunked or clumping stems

Current year stem/twig color: green

Current year stem/twig thickness: medium

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Figure 1. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

Use and Management

Culture

Light requirement: plant grows in full sun
Soil tolerances: slightly alkaline; clay; sand; acidic; loam;
Drought tolerance: moderate
Soil salt tolerances: poor
Plant spacing: 36 to 60 inches

Other

Roots: not applicable
Winter interest: plant has winter interest due to unusual form, nice persistent fruits, showy winter trunk, or winter flowers
Outstanding plant: plant has outstanding ornamental features and could be planted more
Invasive potential: not known to be invasive
Pest resistance: no serious pests are normally seen on the plant

It looks particularly attractive twining along a fence or over an arbor or mail box. Foliage and flowers cluster toward the top of the fence or arbor several years after planting. Regular heading back several of the twining stems each year will help generate new foliage and flowers near the ground. Rapid growth and profuse flowering have helped Allamanda become popular as an annual in cooler regions where freezing temperatures kill the plant to the ground.

Growing best in full sun, Allamanda needs well-drained soil and should receive ample moisture during the growing season. Flowers appear in greatest abundance during the summer but some appear all year.

Pests and Diseases

No pests or diseases are of major concern. Plants are occasionally bothered by scale and mealybugs.