



Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

*Trachelospermum asiaticum*¹

Edward F. Gilman²

Introduction

The small, dark green glossy leaves of dwarf jasmine have prominent veins of a lighter green (Fig. 1). The slender, wiry stems simply sprawl on the ground, providing a dense groundcover within two years after planting in full sun, slower in shade. The small, pale yellow, star-shaped, very fragrant blooms are rare in Florida.

General Information

Scientific name: *Trachelospermum asiaticum*

Pronunciation: tray-kell-loe-SPER-mum ay-shee-AT-tick-kum

Common name(s): Dwarf Jasmine, Small-Leaf Confederate Jasmine, Asiatic Jasmine

Family: *Apocynaceae*

Plant type: vine

USDA hardiness zones: 7B through 10 (Fig. 2)

Planting month for zone 7: year round

Planting month for zone 8: year round

Planting month for zone 9: year round

Planting month for zone 10: year round

Origin: not native to North America

Uses: 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

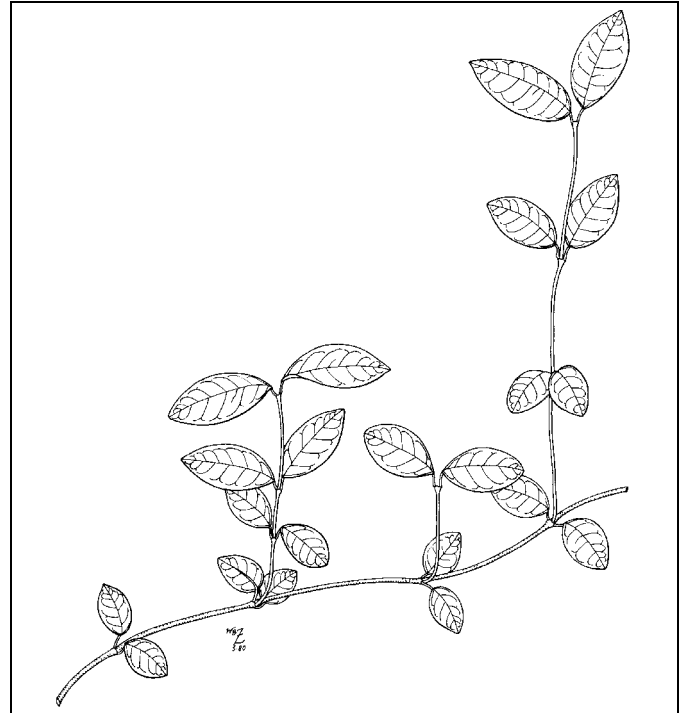


Figure 1. Dwarf Jasmine.

Plant habit: spreading

Plant density: dense

Growth rate: fast

Texture: fine

Foliage

Leaf arrangement: opposite/subopposite

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2. Edward F. Gilman, professor, Environmental Horticulture Department, Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville, 32611.

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Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

Leaf type: simple
Leaf margin: entire
Leaf shape: ovate
Leaf venation: pinnate
Leaf type and persistence: evergreen
Leaf blade length: less than 2 inches
Leaf color: variegated
Fall color: no fall color change
Fall characteristic: not showy

Flower

Flower color: yellow
Flower characteristic: inconspicuous and not showy; pleasant fragrance

Fruit

Fruit shape: pod or pod-like
Fruit length: 1 to 3 inches
Fruit cover: dry or hard
Fruit color: unknown
Fruit characteristic: inconspicuous and not showy

Trunk and Branches

Trunk/bark/branches: not applicable
Current year stem/twig color: brown
Current year stem/twig thickness: thin

Culture

Light requirement: plant grows in part shade/part sun
Soil tolerances: alkaline; clay; sand; acidic; loam
Drought tolerance: moderate
Soil salt tolerances: unknown
Plant spacing: 24 to 36 inches

Other

Roots: not applicable
Winter interest: no special winter interest
Outstanding plant: not particularly outstanding
Invasive potential: aggressive, spreading plant
Pest resistance: no serious pests are normally seen on the plant

Use and Management

Growing in full sun to partial shade, dwarf jasmine does best on rich soil with ample moisture but will tolerate less ideal conditions. Plant on 18-inch centers. Pruning along sidewalks and other edges is necessary to control growth. The stems do not climb, so this ground cover is ideal for planting around and beneath shrubs and trees.

Propagation is by semi-hardwood cuttings placed in mist beds with rooting hormone treatment. Dense stands can be cut like sod to transplant to other areas.

Scales or whiteflies followed by sooty mold can be a minor problem for dwarf jasmine.

Pests and Diseases

No diseases are of major concern.