



Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

*Brunfelsia grandiflora*¹

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Introduction

This may be one of the most beautiful group of plants grown in Florida landscapes, although many people are not aware of them (Fig. 1). They grow to about 8 or 10 feet tall and are most known for their beautiful flower display. Flowers range from white to lavender. *B. pauciflora* and *B. australis* flowers emerge lavender or purple and fade to white during the next day or two. *B. australis* may be the best one adapted to a partially shaded location. Other species have purple flowers with white centers. In south Florida, plants fill with flowers during the warm months of the year. Flowering is restricted to the summer and fall in the northern part of its range.

General Information

Scientific name: *Brunfelsia grandiflora*

Pronunciation: brun-FELZ-ee-uh gran-dif-FLOR-uh

Common name(s): Yesterday-Today-and-Tomorrow

Family: *Solanaceae*

Plant type: shrub

USDA hardiness zones: 9B through 11 (Fig. 2)

Planting month for zone 9: year round

Planting month for zone 10 and 11: year round

Origin: not native to North America

Uses: specimen; accent; border; foundation; mass planting; screen; trained as a standard

Availability: grown in small quantities by a small number of nurseries

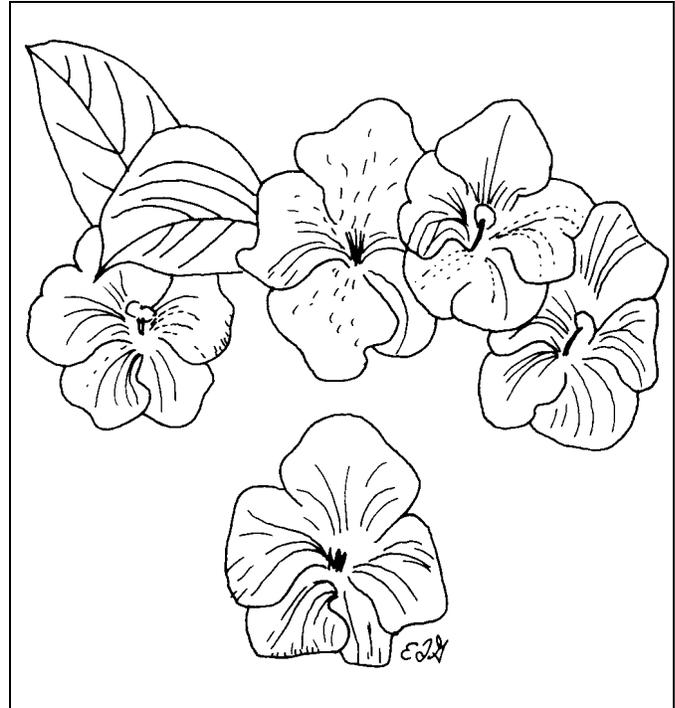


Figure 1. Yesterday-Today-and-Tomorrow.

Height: 7 to 10 feet

Spread: 5 to 8 feet

Plant habit: upright

Plant density: dense

Growth rate: moderate

Texture: medium

Foliage

Description

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Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

Leaf arrangement: alternate
Leaf type: simple
Leaf margin: entire
Leaf shape: oblong
Leaf venation: pinnate
Leaf type and persistence: evergreen
Leaf blade length: 8 to 12 inches
Leaf color: green
Fall color: no fall color change
Fall characteristic: not showy

Flower

Flower color: lavender; purple; white
Flower characteristic: pleasant fragrance; spring flowering; summer flowering; fall flowering

Fruit

Fruit shape: unknown
Fruit length: unknown
Fruit cover: dry or hard
Fruit color: yellow
Fruit characteristic: inconspicuous and not showy

Trunk and Branches

Trunk/bark/branches: not particularly showy; typically multi-trunked or clumping stems
Current year stem/twig color: brown
Current year stem/twig thickness: medium

Culture

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

Other

Roots: usually not a problem
Winter interest: no special winter interest
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

Use and Management

The shrub is nicely suited for displaying by itself as a specimen or can be combined with others in a shrub border. It can be used along the foundation of a large commercial building but grows too large for planting along most house foundations. Surprisingly, flowering is acceptable in the partial shade. Selective pruning can keep the plant at any height from 4 to about 8 feet.

This plant is well adapted to a variety of well drained soils, acid or alkaline.

Pests and Diseases

Few problems seem to affect this nice shrub.