



Cooperative Extension Service  
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

## *Campsis radicans*<sup>1</sup>

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### Introduction

Trumpet Vine climbs to 30 feet or more when given support (Fig. 1). The brilliant orange flowers are borne in summer and are often visited by hummingbirds. They will hang down from an arbor or trellis making a wonder “wall” or “ceiling” in a garden. Rapid growth makes training easy, but regular pinching and pruning is required to establish this vine on a structure. The invasive nature of the plant makes it hard to get rid of once it is established in the yard. Ants often live on Trumpet Vine and are sometimes found objectionable by gardeners. The thick, woody stem can grow between wooden house siding and destroy it. It is best suited for planting at the base of an arbor or trellis. It can also be used in a container where it will cascade over the side.

### General Information

**Scientific name:** *Campsis radicans*

**Pronunciation:** KAMP-sis RAD-ick-anz

**Common name(s):** Trumpet Creeper, Trumpet Vine

**Family:** *Bignoniaceae*

**Plant type:** vine

**USDA hardiness zones:** 4B through 10A (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 and 11:** year round

**Origin:** native to Florida

**Uses:** hanging basket; attracts hummingbirds

**Availability:** somewhat available, may have to go out of the region to find the plant

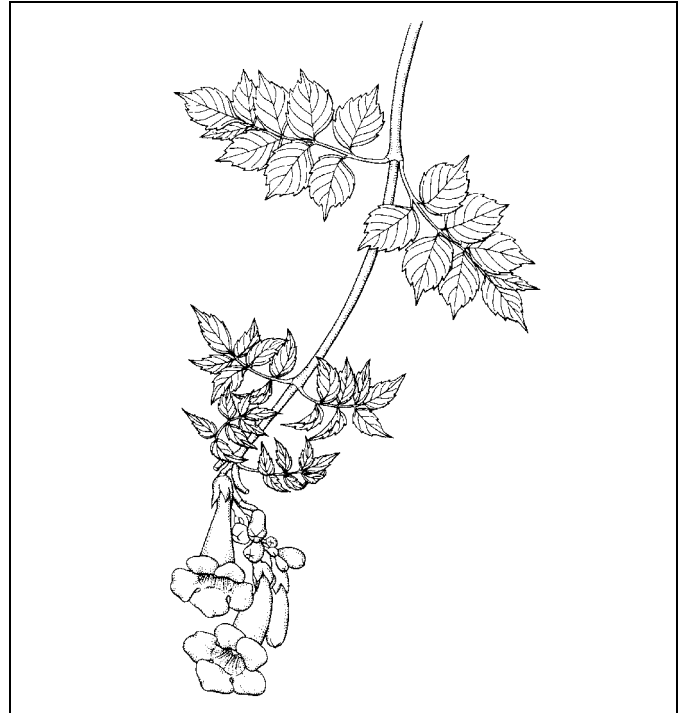


Figure 1. Trumpet Creeper.

### Description

**Height:** depends upon supporting structure

**Spread:** depends upon supporting structure

**Plant habit:** spreading

**Plant density:** moderate

**Growth rate:** fast

**Texture:** medium

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Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

**Foliage**

- Leaf arrangement:** opposite/subopposite
- Leaf type:** odd-pinnately compound
- Leaf margin:** dentate
- Leaf shape:** ovate
- Leaf venation:** pinnate
- Leaf type and persistence:** deciduous
- Leaf blade length:** 2 to 4 inches
- Leaf color:** green
- Fall color:** orange
- Fall characteristic:** not showy

**Flower**

- Flower color:** yellow
- Flower characteristic:** summer flowering

**Fruit**

- Fruit shape:** pod or pod-like
- Fruit length:** 3 to 6 inches
- Fruit cover:** dry or hard
- Fruit color:** brown

**Fruit characteristic:** persists on the plant

**Trunk and Branches**

- Trunk/bark/branches:** 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:** occasionally wet; slightly alkaline; clay; sand; acidic; loam
- Drought tolerance:** high
- Soil salt tolerances:** poor
- Plant spacing:** 36 to 60 inches

## Other

**Roots:** not applicable

**Winter interest:** no special winter interest

**Outstanding plant:** not particularly outstanding

**Invasive potential:** native plant that often reproduces into nearby landscapes

**Pest resistance:** no serious pests are normally seen on the plant

## Use and Management

Like many vines, Trumpet Vine flowers best in a full sun location. It grows but flowers poorly in a shaded location. It will do fine in any soil except those kept continually wet and flooded.

There are several cultivars: 'Atropurpurea' - large, dark red flowers; 'Speciosa' - bushy growth habit; 'Flava' - yellow flowers; 'Praecox' - blooms earlier.

Planthoppers may occasionally feed on Trumpet Vine. The insects generally cause no serious damage so controls are not needed.

### Pests and Diseases

Leaf spot caused by various fungi may be seen but are not serious.

Powdery mildew causes a white powdery growth on the leaves.