



Cooperative Extension Service  
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

## ***Urechites lutea***<sup>1</sup>

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### **Introduction**

Wild Allamanda grows as a vine-like shrub when it is young (Fig. 1). Left to its own devices, it develops into a sprawling vine climbing over nearby shrubs, trees and other structures. In this manner, it is not unlike the non-native Allamanda. Yellow flowers about 2 ½ inches across are produced year-round on stem tips. Although the plant is not covered with flowers like the non-native Allamanda, there are usually some flowers on the plant all year long.

### **General Information**

**Scientific name:** *Urechites lutea*

**Pronunciation:** yer-reck-KYE-teez LOO-tee-uh

**Common name(s):** Wild Allamanda

**Family:** *Apocynaceae*

**Plant type:** vine

**USDA hardiness zones:** 10B through 11 (Fig. 2)

**Planting month for zone 10 and 11:** year round

**Origin:** native to Florida

**Uses:** espalier

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

### **Description**

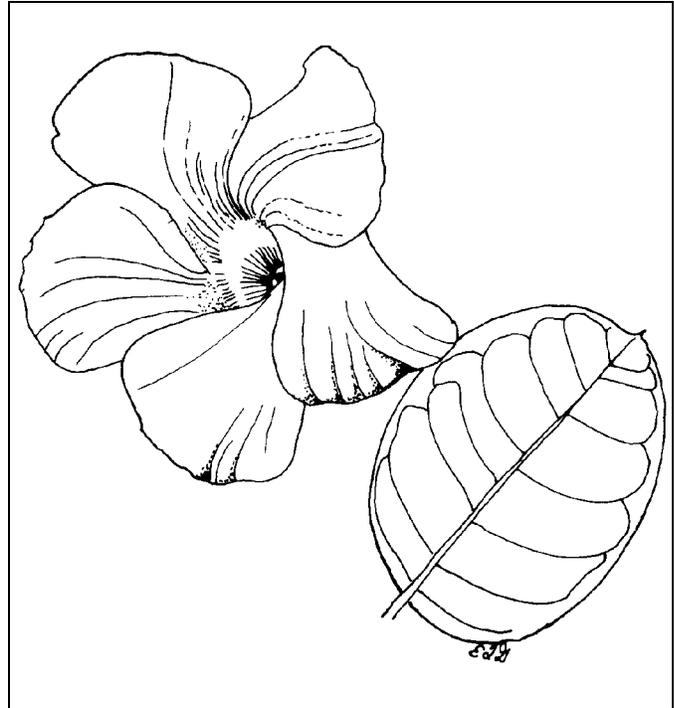
**Height:** depends upon supporting structure

**Spread:** depends upon supporting structure

**Plant habit:** spreading

**Plant density:** moderate

**Growth rate:** moderate



**Figure 1.** Wild Allamanda.

**Texture:** medium

#### **Foliage**

**Leaf arrangement:** opposite/subopposite

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf margin:** entire

**Leaf shape:** elliptic (oval)

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Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

**Leaf venation:** pinnate  
**Leaf type and persistence:** evergreen  
**Leaf blade length:** 2 to 4 inches  
**Leaf color:** green  
**Fall color:** no fall color change  
**Fall characteristic:** not showy

**Flower**

**Flower color:** yellow  
**Flower characteristic:** year-round flowering

**Fruit**

**Fruit shape:** unknown  
**Fruit length:** unknown  
**Fruit cover:** unknown  
**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:** medium

**Culture**

**Light requirement:** plant grows in part shade/part sun  
**Soil tolerances:** acidic; alkaline; sand; loam; clay;  
**Drought tolerance:** high  
**Soil salt tolerances:** moderate  
**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:** aggressive, spreading plant  
**Pest resistance:** long-term health usually not affected by pests

## **Use and Management**

Wild Allamanda can be maintained as a shrub with periodic pruning to check its size. Cut the longest stems back inside the plant so new growth helps keep the shrub full. It makes a nice addition to the native landscape in tropical areas as a specimen, or it can be trained to grow onto an arbor or trellis. The vine will need periodic clipping to keep it from overtaking the trellis. A row of Wild Allamanda planted several feet apart can be maintained as a low hedge with regular clipping.

Although growth continues in the total shade, Wild Allamanda will flower best in full sun or partial shade. With tolerance to salty air and drought, it is nicely suited for sandy, coastal landscapes. Plant grow fine in alkaline soil.

### **Pests and Diseases**

There appear to be few problems that limit the growth of Wild Allamanda.