Introduction

This evergreen, spreading and climbing vine is covered with vivid flowers in the warm months (Figure 1). Lavender-red, trumpet shaped flowers explode into bloom during the warm months and cover the vine in vibrant color. The spiny, yellowgreen fruit follows and can be seen on the plant simultaneously with the spectacular blooms.

General Information

Scientific name: Allamanda cathartica ‘Cherries Jubilee’

Pronunciation: al-luh-MAN-duh kath-AR-tick-uh

Common name(s): ‘Cherries Jubilee’ Allamanda

Family: Apocynaceae

Plant type: ground cover

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: container or above-ground planter; ground cover; cascading down a wall; hanging basket

Availability: generally available in many areas within its hardiness range

Figure 1. ‘Cherries Jubilee’ Allamanda.

Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.
**Description**

Height: depends upon supporting structure  
Spread: depends upon supporting structure  
Plant habit: spreading  
Plant density: moderate  
Growth rate: fast  
Texture: coarse

**Foliage**

Leaf arrangement: whorled  
Leaf type: simple  
Leaf margin: entire  
Leaf shape: oblong  
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: pod or pod-like  
Fruit length: 1 to 3 inches  
Fruit cover: dry or hard  
Fruit color: green  
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

**Culture**

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

**Use and Management**

The dark green, glossy leaves are produced on slender, green, twining stems which become woody with age. Blooming during the warm months of the year, Allamanda should only be planted in frost-free locations, although it could be grown as an annual in colder climates due to its rapid growth rate.

The erect sprawling growth habit makes it ideal for quick coverage of trellises, arbors, or on a tree trunk. Many people use it to cover the base of a mail box or pole. Allamanda will cascade over a retaining wall and makes a nice hanging basket. Rapid growth creates a sprawling form with individual shoots growing alone, away from the rest of the plant. Regular pinching will keep the plant in bounds, but too much pinching removes flower buds which form on new growth.

Requiring full sun locations for best flowering (some flowers are produced in locations receiving only 3 to 4 hours of sun), Allamanda is tolerant of various soil types and requires only moderate moisture. Regular, light fertilization during the growing season helps promote growth and flowering.

**Pests and Diseases**

A witches broom can deform Allamanda.

**Other**

Roots: not applicable