**Mandevilla sanderi** ‘Red Riding Hood’ Red Riding Hood Allamanda¹

Edward F. Gilman²

---

**Introduction**

Quickly twining around any support, or pinched to create a handsome hanging specimen, ‘Red Riding Hood’ allamanda is an attractive evergreen vine endowed with beautiful, deep red, funnelform blooms up to 4 inches wide and 2 inches long, set off against dark green, large evergreen leaves. It is a popular cultivar of *Mandevilla*.

---

**General Information**

- **Scientific name:** Mandevilla sanderi ‘Red Riding Hood’
- **Pronunciation:** man-dev-VILL-luh SAN-der-rye
- **Common name(s):** ‘Red Riding Hood’ allamanda
- **Family:** Apocynaceae
- **Plant type:** vine
- **USDA hardiness zones:** 10 through 11 (Fig. 1)
- **Planting month for zone 10 and 11:** year round
- **Origin:** not native to North America
- **Uses:** hanging basket; 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
- **Plant habit:** spreading
- **Plant density:** dense
- **Growth rate:** moderate
- **Texture:** coarse

---

**Foliage**

- **Leaf arrangement:** opposite/subopposite
- **Leaf type:** simple
- **Leaf margin:** undulate
- **Leaf shape:** elliptic (oval)
- **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

---

Figure 1. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

---

¹ This document is FPS-398, one of a series of the Environmental Horticulture Department, UF/IFAS Extension. Original publication date October 1999. Reviewed February 2014. Visit the EDIS website at [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu).

² Edward F. Gilman, professor, Environmental Horticulture Department, UF/IFAS Extension, Gainesville, FL 32611.

The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) is an Equal Opportunity Institution authorized to provide research, educational information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function with non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations. For more information on obtaining other UF/IFAS Extension publications, contact your county’s UF/IFAS Extension office. U.S. Department of Agriculture, UF/IFAS Extension Service, University of Florida, IFAS, Florida A & M University Cooperative Extension Program, and Boards of County Commissioners Cooperating. Nick T. Place, dean for UF/IFAS Extension.
**Flower**

Flower color: red  
Flower characteristic: year-round flowering; pleasant fragrance

**Fruit**

Fruit shape: elongated  
Fruit length: unknown  
Fruit cover: dry or hard  
Fruit color: brown  
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: slightly alkaline; clay; sand; acidic; loam  
Drought tolerance: moderate  
Soil salt tolerances: poor  
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: not known to be invasive  
Pest resistance: no serious pests are normally seen on the plant

**Use and Management**

It looks particularly attractive twining along a fence or over an arbor or mailbox. Foliage and flowers cluster toward the top of the fence or arbor several years after planting. Regularly heading back several of the twining stems each year will help generate new foliage and flowers near the ground. Rapid growth and profuse flowering have helped allamanda become popular as an annual in cooler regions where freezing temperatures kill the plant to the ground.

Growing best in full sun, allamanda needs well-drained soil and should receive ample moisture during the growing season. Flowers appear in greatest abundance during the summer but some appear all year.

**Pests and Diseases**

No pests or diseases are of major concern. Plants are occasionally bothered by scale and mealybugs.