

# *Allamanda cathartica* 'Cherries Jubilee' Cherries Jubilee Yellow Allamanda<sup>1</sup>

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## 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.

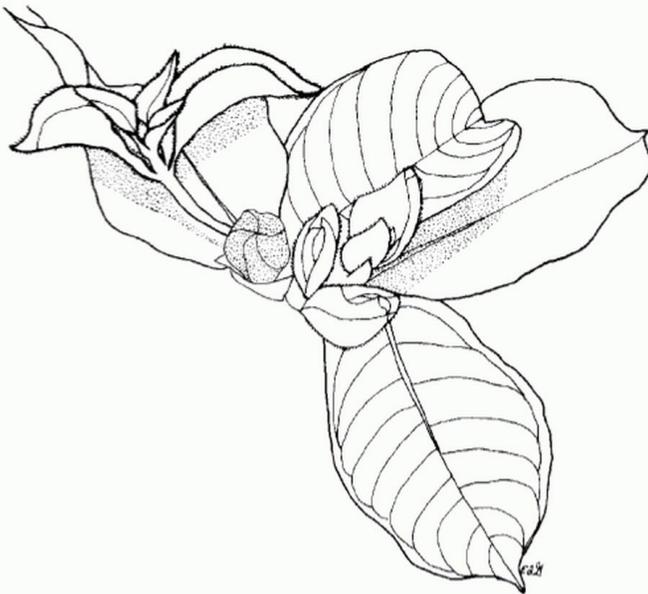


Figure 1. 'Cherries Jubilee' Allamanda.

## 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 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

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## 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

## 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:** no serious pests are normally seen on the plant

## 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.