**Allamanda bolivinensis: Bolivian Allamanda**

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### Introduction

This evergreen, spreading, and climbing vine is covered with vivid white trumpet-shaped blooms up to 5 inches across. The throat of each flower is deep yellow. 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.

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### General Information

**Scientific name:** Allamanda bolivinensis  
**Pronunciation:** al-luh-MAN-duh bo-liv-vin-NEN-sis  
**Common name(s):** Bolivian allamanda  
**Family:** Apocynaceae  
**Plant type:** ground cover  
**USDA hardiness zones:** 9B through 11 (Figure 3)  
**Planting month for zone 9:** year-round  
**Planting month for zone 10 and 11:** year-round  
**Origin:** not native to North America  
**Invasive potential:** aggressive, spreading plant  
**Uses:** container or above-ground planter; ground cover; cascading down a wall; hanging basket  
**Availability:** generally available in many areas within its hardiness range

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Allamanda bolivinensis Bolivian Allamanda

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

**Use and Management**
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 mailbox 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.

**Design Considerations**
The Bolivian Allamanda works well as a background or massing plant when grown on a trellis or fence to block undesirable views or fill gaps along walls. The medium-size, dark green foliage of the allamanda shows well with contrasting plant features such as large leaves, coarse texture, thick stems, and light green or burgundy colors. The loose, sprawling form of the vine contrasts with neat plants such as the clumping, arching forms of grasses and other...
vase-shaped, small-leaved shrubs. Low-growing ground-cover with a mounding or matting form will emphasize the upright form of a trained allamanda on a trellis. To create a large plant mass along a fence select other vines with a variety of flower colors to mix with the white allamanda for more interest.

**Pests and Diseases**
A witches' broom can deform allamanda. Mites can infest the foliage.