Introduction

This may be one of the most beautiful group of plants grown in Florida landscapes, although many people are not aware of them (Fig. 1). They grow to about 8 or 10 feet tall and are most known for their beautiful flower display. Flowers range from white to lavender. *B. pauciflora* and *B. australis* flowers emerge lavender or purple and fade to white during the next day or two. *B. australis* may be the best one adapted to a partially shaded location. Other species have purple flowers with white centers. In south Florida, plants fill with flowers during the warm months of the year. Flowering is restricted to the summer and fall in the northern part of its range.

General Information

Scientific name: *Brunfelsia grandiflora*

Pronunciation: brun-FELZ-ee-uh gran-dif-FLOR-uh

Common name(s): Yesterday-Today-and-Tomorrow

Family: *Solanaceae*

Plant type: shrub

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: specimen; accent; border; foundation; mass planting; screen; trained as a standard

Figure 1. Yesterday-Today-and-Tomorrow


2. Edward F. Gilman, professor, Environmental Horticulture Department, Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville, 32611.
Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

**Availability:** grown in small quantities by a small number of nurseries

**Description**

**Height:** 7 to 10 feet

**Spread:** 5 to 8 feet

**Plant habit:** upright

**Plant density:** dense

**Growth rate:** moderate

**Texture:** medium

**Foliage**

**Leaf arrangement:** alternate

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf margin:** entire

**Leaf shape:** oblong

**Leaf venation:** pinnate

**Leaf type and persistence:** evergreen

**Leaf blade length:** 8 to 12 inches

**Leaf color:** green

**Fall color:** no fall color change

**Fall characteristic:** not showy

**Flower**

**Flower color:** lavender; purple; white

**Flower characteristic:** pleasant fragrance; spring flowering; summer flowering; fall flowering

**Fruit**

**Fruit shape:** unknown

**Fruit length:** unknown

**Fruit cover:** dry or hard

**Fruit color:** yellow

**Fruit characteristic:** inconspicuous and not showy

**Trunk and Branches**

**Trunk/bark/branches:** not particularly showy; typically multitrunked or clumping stems

Archival copy: for current recommendations see http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu or your local extension office.
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; slightly alkaline; sand; loam; clay;

Drought tolerance: moderate

Soil salt tolerances: moderate

Plant spacing: 36 to 60 inches

**Other**

Roots: usually not a problem

Winter interest: no special winter interest

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**

The shrub is nicely suited for displaying by itself as a specimen or can be combined with others in a shrub border. It can be used along the foundation of a large commercial building but grows too large for planting along most house foundations. Surprisingly, flowering is acceptable in the partial shade. Selective pruning can keep the plant at any height from 4 to about 8 feet.

This plant is well adapted to a variety of well drained soils, acid or alkaline.

**Pests and Diseases**

Few problems seem to affect this nice shrub.