

## ***Brunfelsia grandiflora* Yesterday-Today-and-Tomorrow<sup>1</sup>**

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### **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*



**Figure 1.** Yesterday-Today-and-Tomorrow

**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

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**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

**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.