The fiddle-leaf morning glory is a herbaceous vine that is native to the southeastern United States (Fig. 1). This plant, unlike the beach morning glory, can be grown throughout Florida and along the coast. It attains a height of 4 to 6 inches but can spread along the ground to a distance of 75 feet. The small, thick, glossy green leaves are ovate-cordate in shape and densely cover the stems. Most leaves are divided into 5 lobes in a more or less star shape. This plant roots and branches at the nodes and spreads very rapidly. The white, funnel-shaped flowers of the fiddle-leaf morning glory are generally 2 1/2 to 3 inches wide. They open in the early morning and close before noon each day during the blooming season; the flowers are borne in the summer and fall. Small, round seedpods that contain four velvety, dark brown seeds appear on this plant after flowering.

Introduction

The fiddle-leaf morning glory is a herbaceous vine that is native to the southeastern United States (Fig. 1). This plant, unlike the beach morning glory, can be grown throughout Florida and along the coast. It attains a height of 4 to 6 inches but can spread along the ground to a distance of 75 feet. The small, thick, glossy green leaves are ovate-cordate in shape and densely cover the stems. Most leaves are divided into 5 lobes in a more or less star shape. This plant roots and branches at the nodes and spreads very rapidly. The white, funnel-shaped flowers of the fiddle-leaf morning glory are generally 2 1/2 to 3 inches wide. They open in the early morning and close before noon each day during the blooming season; the flowers are borne in the summer and fall. Small, round seedpods that contain four velvety, dark brown seeds appear on this plant after flowering.

General Information

Scientific name: Ipomoea stolonifera

Pronunciation: ipp-oh-MEE-uh

stoe-law-NIFF-fur-uh

Common name(s): fiddle-leaf morning glory

Family: Convolvulaceae

Plant type: ground cover

USDA hardiness zones: 8 through 11 (Fig. 2)
Ipomoea stolonifera Fiddle-Leaf Morning Glory

Planting month for zone 8: year round

![Map showing potential planting range.](image)

Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

Planting month for zone 9: year round

Planting month for zone 10 and 11: year round

Origin: native to Florida

Uses: ground cover

**Description**

**Height:** depends upon supporting structure

**Spread:** depends upon supporting structure

**Plant habit:** spreading; prostrate (flat)

**Plant density:** moderate

**Growth rate:** fast

**Texture:** coarse

**Foliage**

**Leaf arrangement:** alternate

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf margin:** lobed

**Leaf shape:** elliptic (oval)

**Leaf venation:** pinnate

**Leaf type and persistence:** evergreen

**Leaf blade length:** 2 to 4 inches

**Leaf color:** green

**Fall color:** no fall color change

**Fall characteristic:** not showy

**Flower**

**Flower color:** white

**Flower characteristic:** summer flowering; fall flowering

**Fruit**

**Fruit shape:** round

**Fruit length:** less than .5 inch

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Ipomoea stolonifera Fiddle-Leaf Morning Glory

**Fruit cover:** dry or hard

**Fruit color:** unknown

**Fruit characteristic:** inconspicuous and not showy

**Trunk and Branches**

**Trunk/bark/branches:** not applicable

**Current year stem/twig color:** green

**Current year stem/twig thickness:** thick

**Culture**

**Light requirement:** plant grows in full sun

**Soil tolerances:** acidic; alkaline; sand; loam;

**Drought tolerance:** high

**Soil salt tolerances:** good

**Plant spacing:** 24 to 36 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:** not particularly outstanding

**Invasive potential:** aggressive, spreading plant

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

**Use and Management**

*Ipomoea stolonifera* is well adapted to beaches and coastal dunes. It is most useful as a sand binder in coastal landscapes. This vine is an excellent coastal ground cover and will also provide a screen or shelter if it is given a support, such as a trellis, to climb upon. Plant on 3-foot centers to quickly form a ground cover. It may not be well suited for home landscapes because it grows too quickly and has a very open growth habit.