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Climbing Plants

Non-Hardy Vines

While the vines in this section are perennials, they will only survive the winter outdoors in climates much, much warmer than ours.

They are usually treated as annuals and enjoyed until frost, but some can be brought inside for the winter.

C001 Bell Vine, Purple

Rhodochiton atrosanguineus Purple Rain

Tubular dark purple flowers hang like earrings from rosy purple cups. Heart-shaped leaves. Beautiful and vigorous. Twining. 10'h ○●✂ \$4.00—3.5" pot

Black-Eyed Susan Vine *Thunbergia alata*

Charming trailing or twining vine. Flowers have flat, open faces. ○●✂

\$4.00—3.5" pot:

C002 Sunny Susie Orange —Orange 1.5" flowers with a black eye. 4–5'h

\$7.00—5.25" pot:

C003 Blushing Susie —Shades of red, pink, peach, apricot, and ivory. 5'h

C004 Sunny Susy Brownie —Not brown at all, it's a dark orangish red with a much darker eye. The more sun, the deeper the color. In spring and in less sun, it will be pale orange. Also known as Arizona Brownie. 5–8'h

C005 Tangerine Slice A-Peel —Cheerful pinwheels of reddish orange petals with wide yellow margins. 5–8'h

C006 Blue Butterfly Vine, Double *Clitoria ternatea*

Vivid blue 2" flowers with a light yellow center bloom late summer. Oval flower traditionally used in Asia to dye natural fibers and in Southeast Asia to color a sticky rice dish. Young pods and leaves are eaten as a vegetable. Can be grown in a container and moved indoors when temperatures fall below 60°F. It grows rapidly, should bloom in its first year, and may reach the 10–15' it does in the tropics. Larval host plant for long-tailed skipper and painted lady butterflies. Does well in moist soil. Known by many names, including Asian pigeonwings and blue pea. Twining. 6–15'h ○●✂✂ \$6.00—4" pot



Black-eyed Susan vine

C007 Cup and Saucer Vine *Cobaea scandens*

Bell-shaped, honey-scented 2" flowers that change from green to lovely violet. If planted in a sheltered spot, the flowers continue after early frosts. Graceful and grows well in a container. Climbs by tendrils. 25'h ○●✂ \$4.00—3.5" pot

C008 Cypress Vine **NEW**

Ipomoea quamoclit Funny Valentine Blend

Fast-growing vine with 1" star-faced, tubular flowers that range from red to pink to white. Blooms summer–frost. Wispy, thread-like leaves. Twining. 6–15'h ○●✂✂ \$2.69—seed packets

C009 Firecracker Vine *Mina lobata* Exotic Love

Sprays of lined-up 1" flowers that emerge red, then change to orange, yellow, and finally cream. All colors at once. In full sun, one plant can easily produce several hundred sprays August until frost. More restrained in part shade. Also known as Spanish flag. Twining. 20'h ○●✂✂ \$4.00—3.5" pot

C010 Hyacinth Bean *Lablab purpureus* Ruby Moon

Fragrant, wisteria-like rose-purple flowers in loose clusters midsummer through fall. Elegant, heart-shaped purple-tinged leaves and glossy magenta seed pods in fall are a bonus. Vigorous, fast-growing vine that needs a strong trellis. Grown as food in tropical areas, the young shoots, immature pods, and flowers are edible, but dried pods and seeds can cause upset stomach without special treatment in cooking. Twining. Formerly *Dolichos lablab*. 10–20'h ○●✂✂ \$3.49—seed packets

C011 Love-in-a-Puff *Cardiospermum halicacabum*

Small white flowers followed by inflated light green pods containing seeds marked with a distinct little heart. Quick-growing vines with pretty, lacy foliage are excellent for covering wire fences. Climbs by tendrils. 10'h ○● \$4.00—3.5" pot

C012 Moonflower, Climbing *Ipomoea noctiflora alba*

White 5–6" trumpets unfurl as evening approaches, releasing a lovely fragrance. The flowers gently spiral closed with the rising sun. Vigorous twining vine. Nectar plant for sphinx moths. 10–30'h ○●✂✂ \$2.69—seed packets

C013 Nasturtium, Climbing

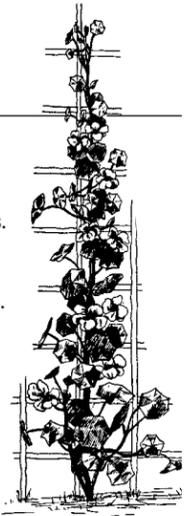
Tropaeolum majus Fiery Festival

Bright orange-red blossoms with yellow centers. Prolific bloomer with edible flowers, leaves, and seed pods. Adds spice and color to salads. Great trailing from window boxes or containers. Twining leaves. 2–3'h ○●✂✂✂ \$4.00—3.5" pot

C014 Rex Begonia Vine

Cissis discolor

Velvety elongated heart-shaped leaves are patterned with silver and green with a central burgundy stripe. The undersides of the leaves, the stem, and the clinging tendrils are all burgundy, while the youngest foliage is sprinkled with crimson. Best in light shade with consistently moist soil. Stays 12–36" in containers. Can be over-wintered indoors. 10–12'h ●●✂✂✂ \$6.00—4" pot



Climbing Nasturtium

Runner Beans *Phaseolus coccineus*

If grown for the showy sprays of bright flowers, keep the beans picked to encourage blooming. Flowers and very young bean pods are also edible. Pods filled with large 1" beans that are delicious eaten as shell beans or dried. Vigorous twining stems that need strong support. From the mountains of Mexico and Central America, they produce more pods in cooler weather. ○●✂✂✂

\$4.00—seed packets:

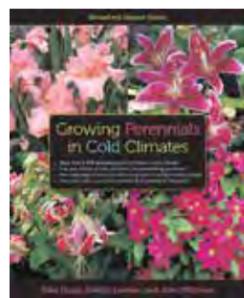
C015 Painted Lady Improved—Bicolor red and pale pink flowers, tan and black speckled beans. Tolerates heat better than other runner beans. Heirloom variety from the early 1800s. 55–68 days to bloom, 110 days for dry beans. 8–10'h

C016 Scarlet—Traditional variety with brilliant red flowers and 8" pods containing burgundy and black speckled beans. An heirloom listed in *The Gardener's Dictionary* by English botanist Philip Miller in 1735. 65 days to bloom, up to 120 days for dry beans. 10'h

C017 Snapdragon, Climbing *Asarina* Joan Lorraine

White-throated purple-blue 2" trumpet flowers. May politely self-seed. Blooms all summer. Twining. 6–8'h ○●✂ \$4.00—3.5" pot

Perennial Vines



About those stars...

Throughout this section, you will notice plants that are marked with four or five stars (★★★★). These plants have been noted by Lonnee, Rose, Selinger, and Whitman in the 2011 edition of *Growing Perennials in Cold Climates* as some of the very best plants available on the market.

Clematis see page 33

Honeysuckle, Climbing *Lonicera*

A vigorous grower with tubular flowers, popular with hummingbirds and nectar-seeking moths. Birds relish the red berries. Good for fences or trellises. Twining. ○●✂✂

\$14.00—1 gal. pot:

C063 Dropmore Scarlet *L. × brownii* —Coral-scarlet summer flowers attract orioles. Bred in Manitoba. ★★★★★ 12'h

\$14.00—1 quart pot:

C064 Blanche Sandman *L. sempervirens*—Deep rose flowers sporadically May–frost. Orange-red berries, which many birds relish. Blue-green foliage. Needs at least a half-day of sun for best blooming. A native species as nearby as Iowa. 12'h

C065 John Clayton *L. sempervirens*—Discovered by a member of the Virginia Native Plant Society. Lovely yellow flowers that are slightly fragrant. The species is native as nearby as Iowa. 10–20'h

C066 Major Wheeler *L. sempervirens*—Coral-red flowers bloom profusely from late spring into fall. Birds enjoy the red berries. A mildew-resistant, noninvasive selection. 6–10'h

Honeysuckle, Climbing continued

\$16.00—5.25" pot:

C067 Kintzley's Ghost *L. reticulata*—Otherworldly silver-white discs resembling eucalyptus leaves encircle yellow flower clusters in June, then persist into fall as little orange-red berries appear. Compact for a honeysuckle. Reaches mature height in 10 years. Found in an Iowa greenhouse in the 1880s by horticulturist William Kintzley, this unusual heirloom vine was rediscovered in the Colorado yard of a grandson in 2001. It's a selection of a native Minnesota honeysuckle. 8–12'h by 4–5'w

C068 Scentsation *L. periclymenum*—Fragrant yellow and cream flowers bloom heavily from mid-spring to mid-fall and are followed by red berries in fall. 10–15'h

Hops *Humulus lupulus*

Fast-growing vine with maple-like leaves. Pine-scented greenish flowers resembling cones are attractive to butterflies. Young shoots are edible like asparagus. Dried or fresh, the flowers are also a key ingredient in beer brewing. Dies back to the ground each winter. Strong spreader from the roots; toxic to dogs. Twining. ○●✂✂✂

\$8.00—3" deep pot:

C069 Cascade—Aroma-type hops with moderate bitterness, often used in West Coast ales. Considered the most popular hops in North America. 20'h by 10'w

C070 Nugget—A great bittering hop with a heavy herbal aroma. Gold leaves. 25'h

C071 Willamette—Fruity and floral. Great for American pale, brown, and English-style ales. 15–25'h

C072 Hydrangea Vine, Japanese

Schizophragma hydrangeoides Rose Sensation

Lacy flower clusters in late spring to midsummer, shading white to pink. The plant (whose listed height may be optimistic in Minnesota) can be cut back in late winter to control the ultimate size. Needs a thick mulch around the root zone for winter protection. Vigorous vine that clings by aerial rootlets. 40–50'h ●✂✂ \$16.00—5.25" pot

C073 Hydrangea, Climbing

Hydrangea petiolaris

Clusters of fragrant flowers with showy white bracts (petal-like leaves). Early summer bloom. Very slow to establish; worth the wait. Climbs and clings by aerial rootlets. Native to Japan and Korea. 30'h ○●✂

\$12.00—1 quart pot

C074 Magnolia Vine, Chinese **NEW**

Schisandra chinensis Eastern Prince

Fragrant white flowers in early spring. Very hardy and self-fruitful. Slightly toothed leaves with small flowers in late May or early June. Clusters of red berries late summer to early fall. Also known as the five flavor berry plant, as berries combine sweet, sour, bitter, salty, and pungent flavors, and can be used to make jellies or herbal teas. Not recommended to eat while pregnant. Twining. 6–8'h ○●✂✂✂ \$36.00—1 gal. pot

C075 Passion Flower, Maypop

Passiflora incarnata PinkPop

Intricate 3" flowers with frizzy, threadlike lavender-pink strands surrounding a center we can only call bizarre. Grow it on a fence or trellis or let it scramble over shrubs and trees. Climbs by tendrils. Place in a protected micro-climate such as the south-facing foundation of a house. 8–10'h ○● \$39.00—1 gal. pot

C076 Sweet Pea, Everlasting

Lathyrus latifolius Pearl Mix

Pink, red, or white flowers with winged stems. Plant in a protected area. Climbs by tendrils. 6'h ○●✂ \$3.00—2.5" pot

Trumpet Creeper *Campsis radicans*

Large trumpets in August and September. Excellent for attracting hummingbirds, good for butterflies. Vigorous vine with glossy, serrated leaves. May die back to the ground in severe winters, but regrows from the ground. Climbs by aerial roots. Not for small spaces. Not recommended to grow up the side of a house or garage because it can grow through building materials. 30'h ○●✂✂

C077 Orange—\$3.00—2.5" pot

C078 Red Sunset—Red flowers with an orange throat. \$10.00—1 quart pot

C079 Wisteria

Wisteria macrostachya Blue Moon

Light bluish lavender flowers dependably rebloom up to three times a year when planted in full sun. Blooms as a two-year-old plant. Locally selected to do well in our climate, the original plant is now 45 years old. Hardy to -40°F. Charming, fragrant flowers in long, hanging clusters beginning in May or early June, followed by fruit pods that remain throughout winter. Grow only on a strong arbor or pergola. Rapid grower. Twining. 15–30'h by 4–8'w ○●✂

\$23.00—1 gal. pot

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Climbing Plants



Clematis clematis ○ ☹

Showy flowers in a range of colors and shapes. Best in full sun with the roots protected from the hottest midday rays. Those that tolerate a bit more shade have been marked with ☹. Climbs by twining leaves that must grab something less than a half-inch in diameter. Great scrambling through shrubs or other supports, or even as a ground cover.

All clematis are toxic to people and pets. Deer-resistant.

\$5.00—2.5" pot:

C018 **Sweet Autumn** *C. terniflora*—Four-petaled white 1–2" flowers in clusters. Hardy, vigorous, and easy to grow; very fragrant, August–September. Seldom needs pruning, but when desired, prune in early spring when the buds begin to swell. Syn. *C. paniculata*. Group 3. ★★★★★ 15–20'h

\$5.00—3.5" pot:

C019 **Virgin's Bower** *C. virginiana*—Vigorous native vine with festoons of small white flowers in summer. Suitable as a cut flower, with interesting seed heads. Good to ramble over slopes, it can spread aggressively by roots and self-seeding. Can be pruned any time; treat as Group 3 for a bushier plant, or don't prune and allow it to ramble. Seed from Juneau and Neron counties, Wis. 12–20'h ○ ☹ ☹

\$16.00—5.25" pot:

C020 **Funyella** **NEW**—Like a smack of jellyfish with short tendrils, these flowers float face down. Yellow with blushes of pink, the bell-shaped double flowers nest one inside the other on burgundy stems. Blooms late spring to midsummer with a light grapefruit scent. Group 1. 6–10'h by 3–4'w

C021 **Pink Mink**—Bright pink on light pink 2–3" cross-shaped flowers from June to September. Charming and abundant. Group 3. 9–10'h

C022 **Sweet Summer Love**—Cranberry-purple flowers with a cherry-vanilla scent will bloom more than a month before its cousin Sweet Autumn and keep blooming. Group 3. 10–15'h

\$23.00—1 gal. pot:

C023 **Asao** **NEW**—Reddish pink 6–8" flowers with lighter pink to white at the middle of each petal. Blooms late spring–early summer on old wood, may rebloom in August on new growth. Group 2. 6–8'h

C024 **Avant Garde** *C. viticella*—Red 2" flowers with showy central puffs of rosy pink. Vigorous and summer-blooming. Group 3. 8–10'h

C025 **Blue Explosion**—Prolific rebloomer. First flowers in May and June are 5" blue semi-doubles with pink petal tips. Single lavender flowers bloom July–September. Group 2. 7–9'h

Boulevard Collection

The compact, vigorous Boulevard Collection clematis from England bloom and rebloom profusely with flowers all the way to the ground June–September. Deadheading and feeding promote rebloom.

\$23.00—1 gal. pot:

C026 **Boulevard Abilene**—Ruffled 4" pink flowers with darker pink bars. Reblooms later in summer. Group 2. 4'h ○

C027 **Boulevard Acropolis**—Magenta 3–4" flowers with spidery pale yellow centers. Group 3. 3–4'h

C028 **Boulevard Edda**—Rosy purple petals with pointed pale tips and a darker central bar. The colors change to lavender-blue with a rosy pink bar. The 2–5" flowers are sometimes semi-double. Group 3. 3–4'h ○

C029 **Boulevard Ravel** **NEW**—Bluish purple 4" flowers bloom with a reddish bar on each petal. Group 3. 3–4'h ○

C030 **Boulevard Samaritan Jo**—Large flowers with overlapping white petals tinged and edged in purple with green tips. Group 3. 4–5'h ○

C031 **Boulevard Sarah Elizabeth**—Cotton candy pink 4–6" flowers with frilly-edged petals and burgundy stamens. Group 3. 4–6'h by 2–3'w

C032 **Boulevard Tranquillité**—Icy lavender 4" flowers. Ruffled and overlapping petals are broad with pointed tips and a white center stripe. Group 3. 4–5'h by 2–3'w ○

C033 **Boulevard Tumaini**—Deep lavender 4–5" flowers with a magenta bar on each petal become lavender and pink. Blooms enthusiastically in early May and June, then again in September. Chartreuse foliage. Group 2. 4'h ○ ☹ ☹

C034 **Boulevard Vicki**—Pink 4–5" flowers have curly petals with darker pink center lines and yellow anthers. Group 3. 3–4'h ○

\$23.00—1 gal. pot (continued):

C035 **Bourbon**—Vibrant red 5–6" flowers with a yellow center from June through early August. A good candidate for summer containers (24" wide or more). Group 2. 4–6'h

C036 **Cardinal Wyszynski**—Grows with 6–8" deep purplish red flowers from July–September. Vigorous. Group 2. 8–10'h

C037 **Daniel Deronda** **NEW**—Reblooming 6–8" star-shaped flowers have bluish purple petals that lighten toward their centers. Early-blooming spring flowers tend to be larger and have variable doubling. Selected by Charles Noble in 1882. Lightly scented. Group 2. 8–12'h ○

C038 **Diamantina**—Deep violet-blue 4–6" double flowers with silver-green central petals when they first open. Pompom flowers can last up to a month. Reblooms in late summer to early fall. Excellent cut flower. Group 2. 6–8'h

C039 **Duchess of Edinburgh**—White 4–6" double flowers with soft yellow anthers. Blooms May–June and again in September. Group 2. 8'h

C040 **Elpis** **NEW**—Ruby red 4–5" flowers with magenta bars on each petal and a light yellow center. Compact and vigorous rebloomer. Elpis was the ancient Greek spirit of hope or expectation, the only spirit left in Pandora's box after all the evil spirits escaped to plague the earth. Group 3. 3–4'h

C041 **Ernest Markham**—Grown since 1926, this classic offers an abundance of handsome reddish magenta 4" flowers. Vigorous and blooms in summer. Group 3. 10–12'h

C042 **Etoile Rose** *C. texensis*—Vigorous vine, covered mid- to late summer with showy, urn-shaped cerise pink flowers. Group 3. 8–10'h

C043 **Golden** *C. tangutica*—Lantern-shaped 1.5" bright yellow flowers in midsummer followed by attractive seed heads. Vigorous. Group 3. 12–16'h

C044 **Guernsey Cream**—Creamy white 4–6" flowers with yellow centers. Blooms in early summer with a second flush of bloom in late summer. Reliable. Group 2. 6–8'h ○

C045 **H.F. Young**—A stalwart variety, with 6–8" Wedgwood blue flowers. One of the best blue clematis. Popular because it blooms in June and again in late summer. Group 2. 6–8'h

C046 **Hyde Hall**—White 5–7" flowers whose wide, pointed petals show hints of pink and green. Pinkish brown center. Part of a series celebrating Royal Horticultural Society gardens in England. Group 2. 8'h by 2'w

C047 **Jackmanii Superba** *C. viticella*—Velvety 5" purple flowers bloom in abundance through the summer. Beautiful, vigorous, hardy—it ticks all the boxes. Improved version of one of the most deservedly popular clematis. Group 3. 10–12'h

C048 **Lindsay**—Bluish purple 6–7" flowers with wide, pointed petals and red anthers. Blooms in midsummer and again in late summer. Group 3. 6–8'h

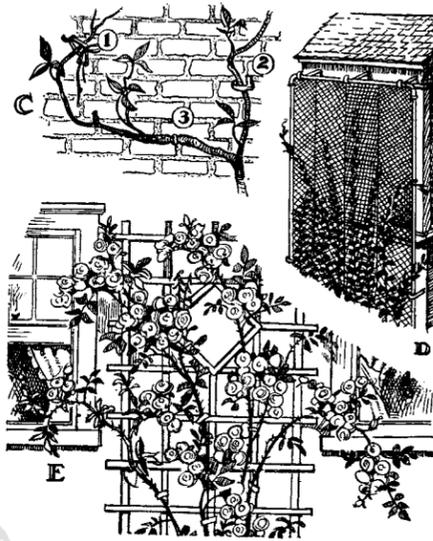
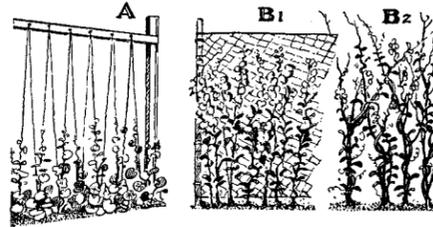
C049 **Miss Bateman** **RENEW**—Abundant 6" white flowers are very slightly tinged pink. The broad, pointed petals open with a light green stripe. Contrasting purple-burgundy center. Blooms late spring to early summer and often reblooms more lightly in late summer. A tried-and-true heirloom hybrid from 1869. Group 2. 6–8'h

C050 **Nelly Moser**—Pale pink 6–8" flowers with a deep rose stripe on each petal and reddish brown anthers. Blooms May–June with a second, less prolific bloom in August and attractive seed heads in the fall. A reliable classic since 1897. Group 2. 6–10'h ○

C051 **Piilu**—Heavy-blooming, shorter vine with many pinkish lavender flowers. A repeat bloomer, the early flowers are double or semi-double, the late flowers are single. Group 2. 4–6'h

C052 **Princess Diana** *C. texensis*—Abundant raspberry pink flowers with wide lighter margins. The four 2" petals are curled outward at their pointed tips. Because the trumpet-shaped flowers face up, this vine can be used as an unusual ground cover. Blooms all summer and fall. Group 3. 6–10'h ☹

C053 **Princess Kate** **NEW**—Up-facing, tulip-shaped flowers, white with plum reverse. Midsummer bloom. Bred to celebrate the English royal wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton. Group 3. 5–9'h ○



Some of the classic supports for climbing plants.

\$23.00—1 gal. pot (continued):

C054 **Rooguchi** *C. integrifolia* × *durandii*—Deep bluish purple petals with lavender margins. Nodding 2" bells with up-curved tips are suspended from upright wiry black stems June–October. Fluffy silver-green seed heads. Can be tied to a support. Also known as Roguchi. Group 3. ★★★★★ 2–8'h by 3–4'w ○ ☹ ☹

C055 **Rosalie**—Two-toned pink and deep pink flowers that change to lighter shades of lavender-pink as they age. Long-blooming. Group 2. 5'h

C056 **Rubromarginata** *C. × triternata* **RENEW**—The starry, four-petaled flowers are white with violet pink tips and have a wonderfully sweet fragrance. Prominent greenish anthers. Blooms heavily from midsummer to fall. Heirloom hybrid of *C. flammula* with *C. viticella* 'Rubra' from around 1880. Group 3. 10–13'h

C057 **Sapphire Indigo**—Cross-shaped, long-blooming purple flowers on a compact vine that makes a great ground cover. Taller if used as a climber. Unusual and lovely in a hanging basket or container, but plant in the ground in the fall. Group 2. 3–4'h ○ ☹ ☹

C058 **Silver Moon**—Silvery lavender 6" flowers with wavy-edged petals and yellow centers. Recommended for light to open shade, where the unusual flower color makes a gentle impact. Midsummer bloom with some repeat. Group 2. 8–10'h ○

C059 **Warsaw Nike**—Abundant burgundy 5" blossoms early to midsummer, again in fall. From renowned breeder Brother Stefan Franczak of Poland. More shade-tolerant than many. Group 2. 8–12'h ○

C060 **Will Goodwin**—Very large lavender-blue flowers with wavy-edged petals and gold centers. Blooms June–August. Group 2. 8–12'h

Clematis, Bush *Clematis integrifolia*

Will grow through neighboring plants such as a rose bush, or can be unobtrusively staked or supported by a tomato cage. ☹ ☹ ☹

\$23.00—1 gal. pot:

C061 **Arabella**—Bluish purple flowers with a prominent cream center, followed by puffs of silvery brown seed heads. Flowers are open and out-facing, with four to six petals. Reliable bloomer from early summer to fall, its stems become woody and self-supporting as the plant matures. Use at the base of a trellis-grown vine that's become leggy or leave it to ramble. A smaller, low-maintenance clematis. Winner of Award of Merit from RHS. 3–5'h

C062 **Blue**—Flowers are nodding and down-facing with four curled back, slightly twisted petals. Prune after its first summer bloom for rebloom. ★★★★★ 2–3'h

CLIMBING KEY—

- A: Twining
- B: Tendrils and leaf tendrils
- C: Aerial rootlets
- D: Twining leaves



"If it blooms before June, don't prune."

Pruning Clematis

It may seem intimidating, but pruning the various types of clematis is mostly a matter of common sense.

Pruning groups include the early-blooming varieties (Group 1), the repeat bloomers (Group 2), and the vines that usually bloom in summer or later (Group 3).

GROUP 1

Blooms in spring on last year's growth. After blooming, prune lightly to shape vine if needed.

GROUP 2

Repeat bloomers, first blooming on last year's growth, then reblooming on new growth. If needed, lightly trim in early spring when buds swell. After the first bloom, again lightly prune to increase later flowers.

GROUP 3

Blooms in summer or later, on new growth. Prune severely in early spring when new buds begin to swell, cutting stems back to 12–14" from the base of the vine to produce good growth and encourage abundant blooming.