

Botanical Name: Anisodonteia hypomandarum 'Tara's Choice'

Common Name: Dwarf Pink Hibiscus, African Mallow

Type of Plant: dicot; shrub Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a fast-growing, large 'sub-shrub', with slender upright branching to form a loose, rounded canopy; a profuse blooming plant for several months

Height 3' - 5' (7') Spread equal Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors prefers full sun; tolerates partial shade

Soil thrives in well-draining or drier habitats; avoid wet clay

Hardiness tender (zones 13, 21-24): best for warm coastal sites

Morphology:

Leaves palmate, alternate, deeply 3-lobed with irregularly toothed margins; medium green, 1"-2" long

Flowers pink - rose-pink, 5-petaled, 1" wide, with tiny lavender stamens fused to central pistil; solitary along the stems; Feb./March through September

Fruit a tiny capsule

Propagation: softwood or semi-hardwood cuttings

Usage: an excellent medium-sized filler for quick effects in the landscape, valued for its long blooming period; easy to grow in most garden situations

Landscape Care:

Watering a periodic deep soak after established; excessive watering causes the plant to become lanky

Fertilizing little needed after establishment

Pruning head back in late summer or early spring

Pests/Diseases relatively free; root-rot in poorly drained sites

Special Conditions

Origin: So. Africa Family: Malvaceae