

Botanical Name: Abutilon hybridum

Common Name: Flowering maple

Type of Plant: dicot; shrub      Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape upright, open, loosely constructed plant with upright, arching branches -- can become tall and slender -- or sprawling and trailing

Height 6-12'      Spread 6-8'      Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors      partial sun to full shade

Soil prefers a moist loamy soil -- tolerates most any

Hardiness some frost (zones 13, 15-24) thrives in mild climates

Morphology:

Leaves palmate, alternate, 3 to 5 lobed w/serrate-crenate margins; stems dark colored with some varieties

Flowers yellow, white, red, pink -- bell-shaped drooping flowers; resembling a closed hibiscus flower

Fruit small woody capsule

Propagation: semi-hardwood cuttings

Usage: loose filler, background plant -- good for informal espalier, woodsy or tropical landscapes, can be pruned into tree-like or vine-like form

Landscape Care:

Watering needs regular water -- do not allow to dry for long periods

Fertilizing balanced in spring and summer

Pruning head back to control size and spread

Pests/Diseases whitefly, scale, aphids, snails, caterpillars

Special Conditions

Origin: Brazil      Family: Malvaceae