

Botanical Name: Lotus berthelotii

Common Name: Parrot's beak

Type of Plant: dicot: perennial Family Fabaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape prostrate, trailing plant with silvery foliage and red to orange sweet-pea like flowers

Height 6-10" Spread to 3 ft. Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun to partial shade

Soil prefers a soil with good drainage

Hardiness some frost; zones 9, 15-24

Morphology:

Leaves alternate, odd pinnately compound, 5-7 leaflets; leaflets very narrow; fine textured foliage resembles Artemisia

Flowers sweet-pea shaped, scarlet red to bright orange, with beak-like curving petals; flowers spring to early summer

Fruit many seeded legume

Propagation: stem cuttings, seed

Usage: hanging baskets, groundcover in warm sunny areas, rock gardens, cascading over walls or rocks; excellent contrasting colors

Landscape Care:

Watering average water, can be kept fairly dry; prefers occasional deep soaking

Fertilizing balanced in early spring

Pruning head back to induce bushiness; dead-head to prolong bloom

Pests/Diseases stem rot where drainage is poor

Other

Origin: Canary Islands