

Botanical Name: Polygala dalmaisiana

Common Name: Sweet-pea shrub

Type of Plant: dicot; shrub Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a fairly open, loosely constructed plant, with slender branches arching up and spreading to form a rounded canopy; leaves tend to drop from lower branches, making the plant bare at base

Height 3' - 5' Spread equal Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors thrives in full sun to partial shade

Soil tolerates most; prefers a moist, yet well-drained site

Hardiness hardy (zones 8,9, 12-24): performs well in warm coastal areas

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, opposite, ovate-lanceolate, to 1" long; medium green above, somewhat paler beneath; sharply tipped apex

Flowers sweet pea-shaped, rose-pink to purple, in open clusters at ends of stems; February - May, intermittent in summer

Fruit a small pod

Propagation: softwood or semi-hardwood cuttings, seed

Usage: a good filler for "quick effects" in woodlands or Mediterranean-climate theme gardens; has enhanced effectiveness if fronted by lower-growing, dense facers or borders, good flower producer

Landscape Care:

Watering regular preferred; tolerates less in clayey soils

Fertilizing balanced in spring and fall; avoid heavy nitrogen application

Pruning head back after blooming for a fuller, dense canopy

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions avoid deep shade

Origin: Yugoslavia Family: Fabaceae