

Botanical Name: Carpobrotus edulis

Common Name: Hottentot fig

Type of Plant: dicot; groundcover Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape wide spreading, prostrate plant, stems tend to root at nodes, conspicuous fleshy leaves point mostly upwards

Height 6-12" Spread indefinite Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun

Soil prefers sandy soils, tolerates most

Hardiness some frost (zones 12-24); prefers coastal locations

Morphology:

Leaves modified pinnate; knife shaped, 3-sided, fleshy, dull green, oppositely arranged, 3-5" long

Flowers yellow or pale rose, solitary, many narrow petals, numerous stamens, 2-3" wide flowers--spring through summer

Fruit 1" wide fleshy capsule

Propagation: softwood or semihardwood cuttings

Usage: large scale ground cover for its interesting foliage and drought tolerance, good for large open dry areas, avoid steep slopes because of excess weight

Landscape Care:

Watering occasional deep soak, very drought tolerant after established

Fertilizing little is needed

Pruning head back ends to keep in bounds

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions

Origin: South Africa Family: Aizoaceae