

Botanical Name: Bauhinia galpinii (B. punctata)

Common Name: Red bauhinia

Type of Plant: dicot; shrub Character semi-deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape sprawling, semi-trailing, semi-climbing plant with long, flexible branches and unusual 2-lobed leaves; plant form makes a natural espalier

Height 3-4' Spread to 15' Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun; thrives in warm, sunny areas

Soil prefers well-drained soil

Hardiness some frost (zones 8, 18-23)

Morphology:

Leaves rounded, lobed, less than halfway into center, smooth, light green to 2-1/2" across -- 2 lobes per leaf

Flowers brick red, legume flower 2-1/2" across in racemes
blooms during hottest part of summer

Fruit brown pod to 4" long, 1" wide

Propagation: seed; must be scarified for prompt germination

Usage: excellent espalier, climbing vine or sprawling shrub --
used for unusual leaf shape, flowers and form; excellent summer bloomer in
subtropical landscapes

Landscape Care:

Watering average water, thrives with deep infrequent watering

Fertilizing balanced, acid fertilizer in spring

Pruning head back to control size - can be pruned to any form

Pests/Diseases chlorosis if drainage is poor

Special Conditions

Origin: So. Africa Family: Fabaceae