

Botanical Name: Cistus incanus 'Creticus'

Common Name: Rockrose

Type of Plant: dicot: shrub Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape erect to spreading, many branched, forms a low, rounded canopy; outer branches ascending; similar in appearance to Salvia spp.

Height 2' - 4' (5') Spread equal + Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun, avoid shaded habitats

Soil prefers drier, well draining soils

Hardiness hardy (zones 7-9, 12-15, 18-23); thrives in warm habitats

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, opposite, oval-ovate, 1 - 1-1/2" long, fuzzy, medium dull green, undulate margins

Flowers purple-pink, 5-petaled, center of many, bright yellow stamens, 2" across, terminal, small cymes; April-July

Fruit small, oval capsule

Propagation: seed, semi-hardwood cuttings

Usage: excellent small filler-flower display, in warm, dry habitats; mass plantings for slopes (hydroseed mixes); informal landscapes

Landscape Care:

Watering prefers occasional deep soak; very drought tolerant after established

Fertilizing little needed after established

Pruning head back to promote new flowering wood - late summer, to enhance denser form

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions

Origin: S. Europe Family: Cistaceae