



# Gardenia (tree form) Gardenia jasminoides '(tree form)'

Hardiness Zone: 7b

# **Description:**

An interesting small accent tree, with large, sweetly fragrant, elegant white flowers contrasted by deep green foliage; a wonderful garden accent plant that also looks great in containers; water more often in extreme heat

#### **Ornamental Features**

Gardenia (tree form) features showy fragrant white flowers at the ends of the branches from early to late summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has dark green evergreen foliage. The glossy pointy leaves remain dark green throughout the winter.

### **Landscape Attributes**

Gardenia (tree form) is a dense evergreen tree, selected and trained to grow in a small tree-like form with the primary plant grafted high atop a standard. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Gardenia (tree form) is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Topiary
- Hanging Baskets



Gardenia (tree form) flowers Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Gardenia (tree form) in bloom Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



## **Planting & Growing**

Gardenia (tree form) will grow to be about 6 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 3 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Gardenia (tree form) is a fine choice for the yard, but it is also a good selection for planting in hanging baskets. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.