



Smith's Esperanza

Tecoma x smithii

Height: 12 feet

Spread: 12 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Smith's Trumpetvine, Orange Trumpet Flower

Description:

A heat loving, full sun shrub with a tropical appearance, producing clusters of showy orange trumpet flowers all season long; remove young seed pods to promote re-blooming; a stunning landscape or garden accent

Ornamental Features

Smith's Esperanza features showy clusters of orange trumpet-shaped flowers along the branches from mid spring to mid fall. Its serrated pointy leaves remain dark green in colour throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Smith's Esperanza is a multi-stemmed annual with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting bees, butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Smith's Esperanza is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Smith's Esperanza flowers
 Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Planting & Growing

Smith's Esperanza will grow to be about 12 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground. Although it's not a true annual, this plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Smith's Esperanza is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Its large size and upright habit of growth lend it for use as a solitary accent, or in a composition surrounded by smaller plants around the base 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 growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.