

August/September Bloomer:
Glory-Bower/Cashmere Bouquet (*Clerodendrum bungei*)



Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida, late August

Glory-Bower; Cashmere Bouquet; Glory-Flower (*Clerodendrum bungei*)

Synonyms (Discarded Names):

Clerodendrum foetidum;

Origin: China, Taiwan, Vietnam

Zone: 8A—12 (Minimum 10°F)

Growth Rate: Medium

Typical Height: 4 feet

Light Requirements: Medium

Drought Tolerance: Medium

Salt Tolerance: Low

Soil Requirements: Wide

Nutritional Requirements: Medium

Plant Type: Evergreen shrub

Flower Color: rosy red, unopened; pink, opened

Flowering Season: Mid summer to fall

Propagation: Cuttings; suckers

Common Uses: Background; border

Glory-bower is an herbaceous soft wooded perennial shrub. It grows upright to about 4 feet tall. It spreads by underground rhizomes that forms a slowly moving thicket. As such, it is easy to contain the suckers by digging them up. In winter, glory-bower is briefly semi-deciduous losing most of its leaves. It usually needs no pruning. When crushed, it is ill smelling.

Leaves

The leaf is big, typically 13 x 8 inches, and broadly ovate. The petiole is as much as 60% of the length of the leaf. Except for the leaf base, the leaf margins are crenate or toothed. The base is entire (not notched or divided) and cordate (heart-shaped). The mature leaf is dark green above, and lighter green beneath. The leaf arrangement on the stem is opposite.



Shape of the leaves



An example of a toothed leaf margin



The leaf base is cordate and entire

Flowers

The flower is an inflorescence in the form of broad, dense, and terminal corymb. The floret is salverform with five spreading lobes. The corolla is rose-violet or pink. The older florets are at the bottom of the corymbs.



A bird's eye view of the inflorescence



Three florets and an unopened flower bud



Glory-bower growing under the shade of banyan trees, *Ficus altissima*., at Edison-Ford Winter Estates.
All pictures by Stephen H. Brown

Useful Links: [What's Blooming?](#)

[Native Plants fact sheets](#)

[S. Florida Hedges fact sheet](#)