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

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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

Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida, late August

Glory-bower is an herbaceous soft woody 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.
**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