

Tie Vine: *Ipomoea cordatotriloba*



Mid-March, Buckingham

Introduction

This striking yet weedy vine can be found throughout Florida. It belongs to the morning glory family. Tie vine is a slender, twining and climbing vine that can grow more than 15 feet long. It sometimes trails along the ground but more commonly it grows on fences, shrubbery, trees and whatever else will support it.

Tie Vine; Morning Glory

Synonyms (Discarded Names): *I. trichocarpa*; *I. trifida* var *torreyana*
U.S.D.A. Zone: 8a-11 (Minimum 10°F)
Plant Type: Perennial vine
Growth Rate: Fast
Leaf Type: Simple
Light Requirements: High; light shade
Salt Tolerance: Medium
Drought Tolerance: Medium
Soil Requirement: Wide; well-drained
Nutritional Requirements: Medium
Major Potential Pests: None of concern
Propagation: Cuttings; division
Human hazards: None
Common Uses: Flowering vine; vine; groundcover



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Distribution

Tie vine is native to southeastern United States, northern Mexico, and western and southern South America. It has been naturalized in other areas including Cuba, Jamaica, and Central America. The vine grows in almost any sunny locations but mostly in disturbed areas.

Habit and Growing Conditions

Tie vine is a twining evergreen or deciduous perennial in South Florida. In cultivation, it is best grown as an annual in light shade. Avoid hot dry conditions, which can result in heavy infestations of spider mites. The plant can become weedy.



The twining nature of tie vine

Leaves and Flowers

Tie vine has two kinds of simple alternating leaves on the same plant: One is tri-lobed and the other is cordate, or heart-shaped. The petiole is as long as the leaf blade. The plant is most readily identified by its big lavender or pink flowers. It has an exceptionally long blooming period. It blooms irregularly throughout the year, but most profusely from fall to late spring in South Florida. Healthy plants produce hundreds of flowers over a short period of time. The funnel-shaped flower has a darker purple throat and obvious lines that divide it into five sections forming a star on the petals. The type of corolla is described as plicate because of the pleats (folds) present in the corolla. The flower opens early in the morning, and remains open into the afternoon at which time it fades and is replaced by a new bloom the following morning.



Cordate leaves



Lobed leaves



Flower buds, Fort Myers



Funnel-shaped flowers, mid-September, Orlando



Examples of plicate corolla, late February, Sanibel



Early December, Estero



Early September, Panama City

Reference

Ipomoea cordatotriloba var. *cordatotriloba*. [Native Plant Database](#). The University of Texas at Austin.

Related Fact Sheets and YouTube

[Florida Native Plants Fact Sheets](#)

[Railroad Vine Fact Sheet](#)

[Railroad Vine YouTube](#)

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