



Moonflower (*Ipomoea alba*)

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Ipomoea alba is a tender perennial vine that is grown as an annual outside its tropical and subtropical zones. The vine has 8 inch heart-shaped, dark green leaves on slightly prickly stems. Flowers are trumpet-shaped, 6 inches long and 3-6 inches wide in a white iridescent.

They add incredible beauty and a powerful fragrance in beds. Blooms unfurl at dusk, even on cloudy days, staying open all night while exuding their sweet fragrance in the air. Eating a large quantity of seeds may bring on hallucinations.

Type	Annual
Hardiness Zone	10 - 12
Sun	Full (6+ hours direct sun)
Bloom Time	July - October till frost
Height	10' - 15'
Spread	3' - 6'
Attracts	Bees, bats, moths and other pollinators
Additional Features	Deer resistant

Soil and Site Recommendations

- Drainage: well-drained, moist soil
- Soil pH: acidic-neutral soil
- Type: rich, loamy soil

Planting Recommendations

- Type: seeds or plants, will need a trellis or some form of support
- When to plant: spring, after the last frost
- Depth of planting: about ¼ inch below soil
- Mulching: not necessary
- Spacing: 6 feet or more apart
- Spread: can be invasive
- Division/transplant tips: typically grown from seed although it can be propagated from stem cuttings; if saving seed, ensure that only seeds that have fully ripened on the vine are saved



Maintenance

- Watering: regular watering
- Fertilization: when in bloom, every 3-4 weeks with half-strength high phosphorus fertilizer.
- Pinching/deadheading: promotes more blooms and prevents re-seeding
- Annual maintenance: Clean up and remove plant after last frost.

Common Problems

Disease: No serious problems

Insects: No serious problems

Resources

www.missouribotanicalgarden.org

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu>

<http://www.gardening.cornell.edu>

Questions or problems: “What’s wrong with my plant” for information on garden pests and diseases:

<http://apps.extension.umn.edu/garden/diagnose/plant/>

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