

SEED OF THE MONTH:

Common Name: Crown Flower

Scientific Name: Calotropis gigantea

Family: Apocynaceae Subfamily: Asclepiadoidea

Genus: Calotropis

Species: gigantea

Height: Spacing: Sun Exposure:

8-10 Feet high 6-8 feet apart full sun

Bloom Color: Purple

Bloom Time: Year-round.

Other Details:

This plant has many xeric characteristics, white milky sap (latex), hairy leaf underside, silvery leaves, thick stalk, and leaf has a waxy topside! (Many xeric points).

Soil Requirements: It's very versatile, it can grow in amended rich soil and still survive nicely in sandy soil.

Water Requirements: <u>In pot</u> – 1 to 2 times per week.

<u>In-ground normal weather conditions</u> – Once established a good watering once every two weeks.

<u>In-ground extreme heat</u> – Once established a good watering 1 to 2 times per week.

Propagation Methods:

Let the seed pods dry on the tree and bag them to capture the seeds when the pod opens naturally. Crown Flower will also grow from herbaceous stem cuttings.

Known Uses:

This plant is home to the Monarch Butterfly and its larvae. The flowers are often used in festive leis. Bees and birds are also attracted to this plant. A white milky sap called latex, that excretes from broken stems or leaves is poisonous and caution should be taken to not get in in your eyes.

Seed packet goes here