

SEED OF THE MONTH: October 2017

Common Name:Stephanotis aka: Madagascar JasmineScientific Name:Marsdenia floribundaFamily:ApocynaceaeGenus:StephanotisSpecies:s. floribundaHeight:Spacing:Sun Exposure:10-30 feet outdoors18-20 inches

Bloom Color: Tiny, white, fragrant blossoms that have a waxy appearance and feel to them. **Bloom Time:** Blossoms begin in the Spring and continue through Summer, Fall and into December. It attracts butterflies and other beneficial pollinators. Please fertilize this plant in the early Spring after pruning.

Other Details:

Someone thought the flowers look like a crown of 5 lobes while the stamens resemble ears. Hence the name Stephanotis, the Greek Word stephanos means crown and otis means ears. Although one of its more common names is Madagascar Jasmine, this is an evergreen vine and not related to the Jasmine family at all.

Soil Requirements: Nutrient rich, loamy soil that retains moisture. Consider using mulch to aid with moisture retention.

Water Requirements: During its first year water well to encourage deep root growth. After that you may give it a good watering about once a week. Note: Too much water will cause the leaves to curl, and the plant may die from overwatering.

Propagation Methods:

Seeds can be a little tricky to grow but worth the effort. Clippings grow much more easily. Plant small plants in the ground next to a

supporting structure like a fence or arbor, trellis or pergola and space them approximately 18 inches apart.

Known Uses:

This plant can provide a great privacy fence between neighbors. Its fragrant flowers are not a stranger to the perfume industry.

