The Village Botanica, Inc. Plant Catalog HHP-06



The Village Botanica, Inc.

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The Village Botanica, Inc. (VBI), is proud to present our selection of malvas. These plants represent many native and a few select non-native genus and species from our collection. General descriptions for specific material can be found through the following pages. Please contact us about your needs; we'll be happy to assist with your order.

North American Native Hibiscus

Many people are unaware of the great variability and growth habit of the North American hibiscus species. Most are found in wetlands, however a few are located in the drier habitats of south and trans-Pecos Texas. Our collecting activities have focused on species from the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico river drainages, and associated coastal regions. The species will initiate growth at about 60 deg. F. soil temperature, and will set bud approximately 70 days later. In the Houston, Texas, area, they break dormancy about March 15th, set bud in mid May, start blooming in late May, bloom heavily throughout June, then end in early August. Dormancy is exhibited by leaf drop in October, cane dieback by mid November, and complete dormancy by December. This is not true for *H. striatus lambertianus*, which can be found in bloom from March 'til December at our facility, USDA Zone 8a, elev. 245 feet AMSL.

VBI's Hybrid Hardy Hibiscus

Our Hybrid Hardy Hibiscus are developed by our founder, Georgia Bost. These plants are hybrids of native North America hibiscus populations, and have been selected for their long bloom period, outstanding flowers, growth habit and resistance to disease. The parent material is typically found in bogs, marshes, tidewaters and similar habitats. Accordingly, the resultant hybrids will tolerate much more moisture than other landscape material, but will still thrive under normal landscape irrigation. They are well suited to watergardens. The cold tolerance of the hybrid hardy hibiscus is through USDA Zone 5. Generally speaking, more water and sunlight mean better growth, flowering, and insect and disease resistance. For most of the hybrids, they can be headed back after spring emergence through early summer to cause lateral bud break and more compact plants. Once allowed to set bud they will continue blooming through mid-summer, then many will repeat in the fall. Deadheading does not promote re-bloom.

Asian Hibiscus and Other Malvas

Most of the other malvas we offer are suited to wetter environments, though a few do prefer to be drier. Some are North American natives; most are not as cold tolerant as our hybrids or the native material. Be careful when selecting to be sure you are choosing material that will survive in your climate.

The Asian species and their hybrids will begin blooming in late summer or early fall, with the exception of the *H. paramutabilis*, which will begin blooming in mid summer. The yellow flowering Asian and African species are sporadic in their bloom period: we have yet to identify the causative agent that initiates bud set. When they do blossom, they will have bud set over the entire plant. To maintain height and control growth on the Asian species that grow quite large, prune severely in mid winter, after going fully dormant. A couple of light heading back cuts over the shrubs through mid-summer will still provide them time to set bud for the fall.

The native North American malvas will begin blooming in late spring or early summer.

Grace Coolidge (PP - 09852)

Hibiscus spp. X

Our "Grace Coolidge" is a delicately pink blushed flowering hibiscus that will provide season-long color displays from late spring until the first frost, unlike the similar native stock she is hybridized from. As with all our Hybrid Hardy Hibiscus, she is cold hardy to Zone 5 and she has a compact growth habit to 3 feet by 3 feet in warmer climes.



Michelle's Passion (PP - 10,741)

Hibiscus spp. X

"Michelle's Passion" is an amazing multi-hued blossom that bleeds from white through the pinks to a bright red eye. Contrasting pollen color, an open disc form, and rear coloration patterns make this a true show-winner. This plant will mature to 4 feet if given enough warm season, but will come back year after year despite USDA Cold Hardiness Zone 5 temps.

Quatro Rojo (PP - 09311) Hibiscus spp. X

"Quatro Rojo" is one of our taller-growing genotypes that will produce color from June through November in our Gulf Coast climate. An excellent alternative to bamboo, this plant will provide vertical accents and screening abilities with scarlet-red canes, finely-cut leaves, and very upright growth. The yellow pollen sacs contrast sharply against the brilliant blossoms of four shades of red. Mature height can be 15 feet, and 3 feet of spread.





Debra Danberg (PP-09311)

Hibiscus spp. X

This shrubby hibiscus produces copious amounts of truly red blossoms. It is easily cultivated for placement as a specimen or as a natural selection beside any water feature or low spot in the garden, however, it will be satisfied with any normal landscape irrigation. "Debra Danberg" can grow to be 6-8 feet tall, by 3 feet in width.

Petticoat (PPAF)
Hibiscus spp. X

This white-flowered, red-eyed hibiscus flower has ruffled edges, reminding one of the famous petticoats of yesteryear. Three feet will be the average height of this open, deep green leaved plant. A classic due to its simplicity and free-blooming habit.





Jackie K.O. (PPAF) Hibiscus spp. X

An especially attractive hybrid with a most beautiful growth habit, flower, and stem coloration, our "Jackie K.O." is a petite plant. Growth habit is that of an upright vase, with an open structure approximately 3 feet tall by 1 1/2 feet wide. The stems are crimson colored, the very dark green leaves diminutive, and the open flower presents its absolute stunning hot pink petals surrounding the bright red center. Irresistible.



Georgia Rose (PPAF)

Hibiscus spp. X

The "Georgia Rose" hybrid will be the talk of the neighborhood with her huge flowers produced on a mature plant, to 6 feet tall and 4 wide. The flowers are a captivating rose color that calls attention to themselves set against the dense, dark green foliage. Another flower with contrasting yellow pollen, this is a must-have plant when given the space, sun and water she needs to respond to her maximum capabilities.

Marty's Star (PPAF)

Hibiscus spp. X

VBI is proud to introduce this hybrid with its classic flower shape and coloration. With the golden pollen presented before the deepest red imaginable, this is a truly spectacular flower. We have yet to see another be its equal in the richness of its red color. Not a large plant, "Marty's Star" has an open vase growth habit, and star-shaped blossoms set on pigmented stems. Maximum height is less than 4 feet.



Violet Dreams (PPAF)

Hibiscus spp. X

"Violet dreams" is VBI's entry into the blue-tinted hibiscus market. This most unusual flower truly has a violet-colored suite of hues, with a dark eye and slightly open funnel-form shape. This flower is the closest so far to a blue hibiscus from the hardy natives. Growth habit is open and the height reaches a maximum of 3 feet.





Betty Ford (PPAF)

Hibiscus spp. X

VBI's "Betty Ford" is a small (3 feet max) perennial shrub that will blossom consistently despite the harshest of conditions. Her fascinating iridescent flowers catch any available sunlight and reflect multihued rose and wine colored shades. Plant description is open with deep green foliage, an open flower, and bright green leaves.

Governor Ann (PPAF)

Hibiscus spp. X

Our homage to Texas' "Governor Ann" is a very strong grower with the most captivating red flowers on a substatntial plant. She has her sulfur-colored pollen contrasting against those scarlet petals, and deep green foliage. Plant size will be up to 5 feet tall by 4 feet wide.



Razberri Ruffles (PP - 09852)

Hibiscus spp. X

A fine selection offered to the grower only by The Village Botanica, Inc., this patented hybrid will delight the viewer with raspberry-colored shades in the petals, set off by the brilliantly yellow pollen. A neat shrub that will bloom from late spring through mid fall, this plant will attain an overall shape of 4 feet by 4 feet. The leaves are a deep green, and the habit is dense and compact.



Rosalyn (PPAF)

Hibiscus spp. X

"Rosalyn" is a profusely blooming hybrid hardy hibiscus that has dark violet/pink blossoms with a violet eye. She grows from 3 to 4 1/2 feet tall by 2 to 3 feet wide, has an open habit, and is spectacular as a hedge planted on 30-inch centers. "Rosalyn" is one of our heaviest producers, and will perform well given sunlight and moisture.

Nathan's Star (PPAF) Hibiscus spp. X

One of our most vigorous growers, this plant will out perform any other with its flower production and vertical growth attainment in a growing season. The perfect flowers are complemented with its red canes, and will be produced from late spring through ealy fall. An open flowered, upright-growing plant to 15 feet tall or more, this vertical accent is perfect for a screen, water feature backdrop, or visual barrier.



Asian Malvaceae



Japanese Hibiscus 'Salmon'

Abelmoschus moschatus

The Abelmoschus are shrub-like plants that will produce strikingly beautiful flowers at the tips of their branches. This is a smaller version of the larger red variety shown below. These plants respond to warmer temperatures and dead-heading, but are not very cold tolerant. Well suited to being grown as potted shrubs, they will make a nice addition to a container garden.

Japanese Hibiscus 'Red'
Abelmoschus moschatus

This is the larger version of the salmon Abelmoschus. It can grow to 5 feet in height with some winter protection, and makes a beautiful patio shrub. The stark white contrasts with the bright red to attract attention from first glance. Fuzzy leaves make it non-attractive to whitefly and other pests.



Asian Coral Hibiscus

Hibiscus paramutabilis

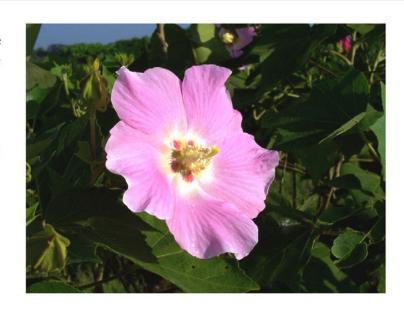
The "Asian Coral", or H. paramutabilis, is a long-season bloomer that will grow to about 6 feet in height. Ours start flowering in June and continue through fall, and are cold hardy to 20 degrees F. Below that temperature, some stem die-back may occur. This clear coral-red color is visited by nectar feeders and is a nice complement to the mixed garden, standing up behind the perennials and annual flowers. They are sterile and will not set seed.

Asian Malvaceae

Asian HedgeRose

Hibiscus mutabilis

What a marvelous shrub! This provides spectacular fall color with huge blossoms over 5-inches wide. Definitely an eye-catcher, this shrub will tolerate wet conditions and the heat of the lower latitudes. Some stem die-back may occur below 20 degrees F., but winter hardiness is assured. If left unpruned, it can grow to a height of 10 feet or more, and will produce an umbrella-shaped mass of color starting in September, when few other shrubs are in flower. Versatile as a hedge and suited for large landscapes where masses of this shrub excel along ROW's, office buildings, as visual screens between parking lots, etc. The deciduous nature will reveal a nice limb structure in winter.



Asian Super HedgeRose

Hibiscus mutabilis x

This shrub has all the characteristics of the parent but can grow to 15 feet in height. Full sun and an open setting will assure you of healthy plants with complete flower set. They will open the palest of pink, then change color throughout the day as the pigments are revealed. Another shrub that demands a large public space to be fully appreciated, as a specimen in an Asian garden setting, or in a mass planting.

Oriental Pearl Hibiscus mutabilis taiwanensis

A favorite among us at VBI, our "Oriental Pearl" is a true show-stopper with its compact growth and fully-open pearly white blossoms. They will produce such a display as to become completely covered in a blanket of white. This Hibiscus will have a deeper green color to the leaves, fuller growth habit, yet can still attain 12 feet in height if not headed back. A rare find, it is truly a fine perennial shrub!



Upright Lemon-Eye Hibiscus Hibiscus calyphyllus

From southern Africa and Madagascar comes this cold sensitive hibiscus offered by VBI. This very dense, upright shrub grows to about 4 feet (can become 10 feet) in our climate before the cold burns it back to the ground. It has large, tropical leaves, and a deep yellow blossom that sets off the mahogany eye. A delight for the tropical hibiscus connoisseur who is looking for something different. Cold hardiness is Unknown, but ours have returned after 15 deg. F field planted.



Sprawling Lemon-Eye Hibiscus

Hibiscus calyphyllus

Similar to the Upright Form, this larger-flowered genotype is low-growing (possible container plant) and more cold-sensitive. A beautiful flower of clear yellow and a cinnamon-mahogany eye.



Pacific Glow Talipariti hamabo hamabo

What a fine patio tree this hibiscus relative makes! It will grow to about 15 feet tall, has neat silvery bark, small deep green leaves with light-colored undersides, and the most alluring custard-yellow flowers with crimson colored eyes that open later in the day. Ours have tolerated 25 deg. F. with no stem damage, but don't push your luck. It would make for a fine container-grown tree for a deck or balcony. Our "Pacific Glow" is a wonderful addition to any line.





Seashore Mallow Kosteletzkya virginica

A truly delightful deciduous shrub, this Kosteletzkya exhibits the bright pink 2-inch flowers at the ends of its branches from early summer on. The yellow styles lend an air of playfulness to the blossoms, that appear as butterflies all over the plant when the breeze blows. Makes a very nice hedge in front of a dark green background, and is one of the non-hibiscus mallows native to North America. We love it!

White Seashore Mallow Kosteletzkya virginica alba

Same as the above but with perfectly white petals.





Prickly Sida Sida spinosa

This native malva will delight with its lemon-drop colored blossoms that will cover the entire plant. An excellent selection for a naturalized area, this plant will eventually form small thickets to 6 feet tall, providing cover for small mammals, as well as being a source of energy for nectar feeders. It does have spiny seed which clings to fur and clothing, thus the name.



Texas Rosemallow *Pavonia lasiopetala*

The native Texas Rosemallow is a lovely mounding shrub that works in well-drained yet moist sites. It will tolerate some dry conditions, but is not a xeriscape plant. Perfect for rock gardens and perennial borders.

Spearleaf Swampmallow
Pavonia hastata

This Brazilian pavonia has purple venation in its petals and a dark crimson eye. It can run over a large area as well as mound up to 3 feet tall. This exotic plant is drought tolerant and can spread very quickly.



Turkscap

Malvaviscus drummondii

The Turk's Cap, so named for the turban shaped flower, is a Texas native that is important to nectar feeders. It can grow to 6 feet tall, and will do well in full sun to part shade. It is drought tolerant as well as tolerant of wet feet. Open siting usually gives the best results.



Mexican Turk's Cap Malvaviscus arboreus

This is a south Texas native malva that can grow to 10 feet in height. It will be covered by the red pendulous flowers that have the appearance of Christmas tree lights hanging from its branches. Its growth habit is denser and more compact than the Turk's Cap and is usually kept short by hard freezes (below 20 deg. F.). Easy to grow out.

Pink Turk's Cap
Malvaviscus arboreus rosa

This variety is similar in growth habit as the above mentioned Mexican Turk's Cap. On any given day during its bloom period, the mature plant will be covered with hundreds of pendulous pink flowers. A must-have to attract hummingbirds and butterflies. Both the Turk's Cap's have a long bloom period, from mid-spring 'til first freeze. Easy to love, easier to grow.



Species List