

Dendromecon - Growing Guide

Growing Dendromecon Rigida

Tree poppy

These popular but rare plants are very difficult to propagate from softwood or hardwood cuttings and therefore you will find that they are only available on our website from time to time as our propagation allows. It may be sensible to join the website waiting or wish list so that we can then advise you when plants become available.

D. rigida is an evergreen shrub originating from Mexico and California. It is therefore commonly grown as a greenhouse plant where it can readily be trained up as a climbing plant on a wall. If grown outside in the mildest locations it may become semi evergreen and is probably also best grown on a wall in a hot, dry location where it will need tying into wires or a trellis as it has no mechanism for attaching itself to supports.

D. rigida has 3-4in long lance shaped leaves which are a stand-out grey green colour. It produces solitary, large, poppy shaped fragrant yellow flowers right through the season from spring to autumn. In maturity this shrub (or climber if trained) can grow up to 10ft in height.

It once covered a wall in the conservatory at Burncoose where it presented, for many years, a long lasting and colourful display. It is a pity that it is so slow and difficult to propagate in quantity.



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