

Solanum - Growing Guide

Growing Solanum

The species and varieties of solanum which we grow range from the hardy to the not so hardy. The genus includes the potato (*Solanum tuberosum*), and all species have flowers which have distinct similarities with the flowers of a potato. The species listed here are mainly climbing plants which will, with some initial help and support, climb up walls and fences. *S. rantonettii* can be grown as a wall or freestanding shrub and is the only tender species currently available.

Solanum like to be grown in full sun in reasonably fertile soil but are happy in dry periods. They will tolerate slightly alkaline soil.

If grown in the greenhouse, up a wall, or on a trellis in a pot they will need regular pruning to keep them under control. This is best attempted in the spring as solanum flower on the new growth.

S. crispum 'Glasnevin' is a fast growing, scrambling, or climbing, evergreen variety with deep purple-blue flowers in terminal corymbs. Indoors you may well get flowers in early summer but, outside, it tends to flower from midsummer well on into the autumn. This species originates in Chile and is perfectly hardy. It can grow eventually to 15ft or so.



Solanum crispum
'Glasnevin'



Solanum crispum
'Glasnevin'



Solanum crispum
'Glasnevin'



Solanum jasminoides



Solanum jasminoides



Solanum jasminoides



Solanum jasminoides
'Album'



Solanum jasminoides
'Album'



Solanum jasminoides
'Album'



Solanum rantonnetii



Solanum rantonnetii



Solanum rantonnetii



Solanum laciniatum



Solanum laciniatum



Solanum laciniatum

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