

## Cassia alata

### (Candlebrush)

Cassia is a large, spreading shrub from Argentina, from late summer to fall produces large spikes of golden-yellow flowers, opening from bottom to top. The plant reaches a height of 2.5-3 m with an equal spread. Sometimes the plant can even reach 10 m. Candle-brush makes an attractive specimen shrub or small tree if it is properly trained. Candle-brush grows rapidly in full sun on a wide range of soils. Candle-brush produces the nicest flower display next year when it is pruned back hard in the spring. It makes a beautiful accent in a shrub border or planted as a specimen in a ground cover. It doesn't take any frost. In cold condition the plant can be grown as a perennial, each year it will die back and during spring it will come back. Locate it near the patio or by an entryway for a stunning fall accent plant. The whole plant is poisonous if ingested.



Plant Image

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#### Landscape Information

**French Name:** Dartrier.

**Pronunciation:** KASS-ee-uh uh-LAY-tuh

**Plant Type:** Shrub

**Origin:** Africa, South Asia,

**Heat Zones:** 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

**Hardiness Zones:** 10, 11, 12, 13

**Uses:** Specimen, Container, Wildlife, Pollution Tolerant / Urban

#### Size/Shape

**Growth Rate:** Fast

**Tree Shape:** oval

**Canopy Symmetry:** Irregular

**Canopy Density:** Open

**Canopy Texture:** Coarse

**Height at Maturity:** 3 to 5 m

**Spread at Maturity:** 3 to 5 meters

**Time to Ultimate Height:** 5 to 10 Years

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Flower Image

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**Botanical Description**

**Foliage**

**Leaf Arrangement:** Alternate  
**Leaf Venation:** Pinnate  
**Leaf Persistence:** Evergreen  
**Leaf Type:** Odd Pinnately compound  
**Leaf Blade:** 5 - 10 cm  
**Leaf Shape:** Oblong  
**Leaf Margins:** Entire  
**Leaf Textures:** Smooth, Coarse  
**Leaf Scent:** No Fragrance  
**Color(growing season):** Green  
**Color(changing season):** Green

**Flower**

**Flower Showiness:** True  
**Flower Size Range:** 10 - 20  
**Flower Type:** Spike  
**Flower Sexuality:** Monoecious (Bisexual)  
**Flower Scent:** No Fragrance  
**Flower Color:** Yellow, Orange  
**Seasons:** Summer, Fall

**Trunk**

**Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage:** Generally resists breakage  
**Number of Trunks:** Multi-Trunked  
**Trunk Esthetic Values:** Smooth

**Fruit**

**Fruit Type:** Legume  
**Fruit Showiness:** False  
**Fruit Size Range:** 7 - 10  
**Fruit Colors:** Brown  
**Seasons:** Summer, Fall

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Leaf Image

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### Horticulture Management

#### Tolerance

**Frost Tolerant:** No

**Heat Tolerant:** Yes

**Drought Tolerant:** Yes

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#### Requirements

**Soil Requirements:** Clay, Loam, Sand

**Soil Ph Requirements:** Acidic, Neutral

**Water Requirements:** High, Moderate

**Light Requirements:** Full

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#### Management

**Invasive Potential:** Yes

**Pruning Requirement:** Needed, to develop a strong structure

**Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter:** No

**Surface Rooting:** No

**Life Span:** Less than 25

**Edible Parts:**

**Plant Propagations:** Seed, Cutting, Layering

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## MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Other Image