

Adenium obesum

(Desert rose)

Desert rose is a large perennial shrub to small tree with a large swollen trunk. It is native to sub-Saharan Africa and Arabia. It usually drops the leaves in the dry season. During the summer it produces a mass of deep rose/red to pale pink flowers but they can appear throughout the year. Desert rose is very cold sensitive and will not tolerate cold soil, air or frost. It prefers full sun but can grow in a bit of afternoon shade. Desert rose grows best dry winters and wet summers mimic its native habitat. For proper flowering similar conditions has to be simulated. The plant produces toxic saps.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: Rose du désert

Pronunciation: a-DEE-nee-um oh-BEE-sum

Plant Type: Cactus / Succulent

Origin: Africa

Heat Zones: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

Hardiness Zones: 10, 11, 12, 13

Uses: Topiary, Bonsai, Specimen, Indoor, Container

Size/Shape

Growth Rate: Slow

Tree Shape: Round

Canopy Symmetry: Symmetrical

Canopy Density: Dense

Canopy Texture: Fine

Height at Maturity: 1.5 to 3 m

Spread at Maturity: 0.5 to 1 meter

Time to Ultimate Height: 2 to 5 Years

Adenium obesum

(Desert rose)



Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Venation: Pinnate

Leaf Persistence: Semi Evergreen

Leaf Type: Simple

Leaf Blade: 5 - 10 cm

Leaf Shape: Obovate

Leaf Margins: Entire

Leaf Textures: Glossy

Leaf Scent: No Fragrance

Color(growing season): Green

Color(changing season): Brown

Flower

Flower Showiness: True

Flower Size Range: 3 - 7

Flower Type: Solitary

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: No Fragrance

Flower Color: Red, Purple, White, Pink

Seasons: Year Round

Trunk

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Suspected to breakage

Number of Trunks: Multi-Trunked, Can be trained to one trunk

Trunk Esthetic Values: Smooth

Fruit

Fruit Showiness: False

Seasons: Year Round

Adenium obesum

(Desert rose)



Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: No

Heat Tolerant: Yes

Drought Tolerant: Yes

Salt Tolerance: Moderate

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Loam, Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Neutral, Alkaline

Water Requirements: Moderate

Light Requirements: Full, Part

Management

Toxity: Yes

Invasive Potential: No

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: No

Pruning Requirement: No pruning at all

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: No

Edible Parts:

Pests: Aphids

Plant Propagations: Seed, Cutting

MORE IMAGES



Other Image