



Oleander Tree

Nerium oleander

03-68



<u>Hardiness</u>	<u>Exposure</u>	<u>Soil</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Height</u>
Zones 8-16, 18-24, H1, H2	Full sun	They tolerate poorly drained, and relatively salty soils	Little to moderate watering	Form double and single, colors range from white to yellow, pink, salmon to red	Fast growth from 3-20 feet tall

This fast growing evergreen shrub can reach up to 20 ft (6.1 m) tall but is usually seen trimmed at 6-10 ft (1.8-3.1 m). It forms a rounded mound to about 10 ft (3.1 m) wide. It is a tough, versatile plant with showy summertime flowers in white, red, pink, salmon and light yellow. Leathery, lance shaped leaves range from about 4-10 in (10.2-25.4 cm) long, depending on variety and are a bright green. Oleanders have a tendency to become leggy - overgrown individuals should be pruned as needed to maintain a nice shape. A popular variety is 'Petit Salmon' which is a dwarf that grows to only 4 ft (1.2 m). There are several white flowering varieties of which 'Sister Agnes' is a favorite. It is a large plant with deep green leaves. I like to grow it in shrub borders and partial shade at the edge of woody areas where the white flowers show their best. The light yellow double flowered variety, 'Luteum Plenum' is another favorite that I grow. Nerium oleander is native to northern Africa, the eastern Mediterranean basin and southeast Asia. Oleander prefers dry, warm climates and may naturalize in such areas.

**** All parts are poisonous if ingested. Do not burn pruning; smoke can cause severe irritation!**