

Little Imp Abutilon



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Abutilon megapotamicum 'Little Imp'

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Description:

This smaller variety produces stunning large flowers; lantern-like dusty red buds open to pendulous cup-shaped pale yellow blooms that keep coming and coming; a perfect container plant; attracts hummingbirds

Ornamental Features

Little Imp Abutilon features bold buttery yellow bell-shaped flowers with gold eyes and red calyces along the branches from mid spring to late summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive serrated heart-shaped leaves remain green in color throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Little Imp Abutilon is a multi-stemmed annual with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Little Imp Abutilon is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Little Imp Abutilon flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Little Imp Abutilon in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Little Imp Abutilon will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Little Imp Abutilon is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.