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**Red Cestrum**  
*Cestrum 'Newellii'*

Height: 8 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: ○ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Jessamine

**Description:**

This stunning evergreen shrub produces showy masses of crimson tubular flowers over a long period followed by interesting red berries; plant in sheltered area of the garden or along borders; may resprout from roots after a hard freeze;

**Ornamental Features**

Red Cestrum features showy clusters of crimson tubular flowers at the ends of the branches from early spring to late winter. Its pointy leaves emerge green in spring, turning bluish-green in color the rest of the year.

**Landscape Attributes**

Red Cestrum is a dense multi-stemmed annual with a shapely form and gracefully arching foliage. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and usually looks its best without pruning, although it will tolerate pruning. It is a good choice for attracting birds, bees and butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Red Cestrum is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use

**Planting & Growing**

Red Cestrum will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. Although it's not a true annual, this 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.



*Red Cestrum flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Moana Lane Garden Center & Corporate Office  
1100 W. Moana Lane  
Reno, NV 89509  
(775) 825-0600  
(775) 825-0602 - Corporate Office

South Virginia St. Garden Center  
11301 S. Virginia Street  
Reno, NV 89511  
(775) 853-1319

Pyramid Way Garden Center  
3397 Pyramid Way  
Sparks, NV 89431  
(775) 425-4300

Landscape Services & Design Center  
1190 W. Moana Lane  
Reno, NV 89509  
(775) 825-0602 ext. 134  
NV Lic. #3379A, D & CA Lic. #317448

[www.moananursery.com](http://www.moananursery.com)