

Jasminum polyanthum

Chinese Jasmine

The sweet scent of Jasmine in the air clearly marks the arrival of spring in South Africa. This evergreen, vigorous climber is perfect to use near windows or braai areas so that its sweet perfume can be enjoyed.

Jasminum polyanthum grows best in sun or light shade and loves a well drained compost enriched soil. It has average water needs. Be careful of over watering in the winter months as this will cause rot.

Chinese Jasmine blooms from late winter into spring with heads of sweetly scented blossoms. Its pink buds open into white star-like flowers that cascade down the shrub.

As it is a strong grower it will need to be supported by means of a trellis or be allowed to ramble over other shrubs in a garden. It works well when planted next to a fence or helped up an unsightly wall…great idea as a cover over water tanks which are becoming a fixture in South African gardens. To keep it tidy you will need to prune after flowering.

Jasmine polyanthum is a rewarding garden climber, especially when planted in a spot where you can enjoy the beautiful fragrance and blushing pink and white flowers. Be sure to place some flowers in your home so that their wonderful scent can mark the arrival of spring!