



# Hot Blooded™ Red Lantana Lantana camara 'Hot Blooded Red'

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

## **Description:**

This beautiful mounded variety produces fragrant flower clusters of gold that turn into bright red during the summer heat; great for container planting, borders and even rock gardens; this butterfly magnet is heat and drought tolerant; low maintenance

#### **Ornamental Features**

Hot Blooded Red Lantana features showy cymes of lightly-scented orange flowers with cherry red overtones at the ends of the branches from late spring to early fall, which emerge from distinctive gold flower buds. Its serrated pointy leaves remain green in color throughout the year.

### **Landscape Attributes**

Hot Blooded Red Lantana is a multi-stemmed annual with a mounded form. 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 should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. 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.



Hot Blooded Red Lantana flowers Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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Hot Blooded Red Lantana is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets

# **Planting & Growing**

Hot Blooded Red Lantana will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 28 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 inches apart. 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.



Hot Blooded Red Lantana in bloom Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. 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, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Hot Blooded Red Lantana is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.