Little Imp Abutilon

Abutilon megapotamicum 'Little Imp'



Little Imp Abutilon flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 9

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



Little Imp Abutilon in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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. It has attractive green evergreen foliage. The serrated heart-shaped leaves are highly ornamental and remain green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

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

This shrub 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

Planting & Growing

Little Imp Abutilon will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It has a low canopy. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub 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 may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. 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 makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use 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 grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.