

lifestyle: GARDENING

HIGH Visibility

Raising your sights in the garden

Vines are a variable subject, but worth examining as a way to add vertical interest to your garden. In the Lowcountry there are few opportunities for changes in heights and levels, and vines may be just the ticket to fill this gap.

First, there are desirable and undesirable vines. It may be subjective or it may be experience, but there are vines that should never, under any circumstances, be allowed in the typical Hilton Head garden. Their fault lies in their extraordinary vigor and/or means of reproducing themselves everywhere, nigh impossible to eradicate. If we gardened on a farm or an estate, the situation would not be serious, but we don't.

Second, there are perennial and annual vines. Annual vines grow very fast in their single season and will quickly cover a trellis. These include Morning Glory and Moon vine, the latter a charming white-flowered and fragrant vine which unfurls at night, shading by day and perfuming by night an outdoor sitting area. Hyacinth Bean, Lablab purpureum, is a colorful, newly popular annual vine for a sunny spot.

Third, there are three methods by which vines attach themselves to

PHOTOS BY NEIL HODGES



Top: Easy to grow Trumpet Honeysuckle, Lonicera sempervirens
Above: Subtly fragrant blooms of evergreen Armand clematis.
Right: Lady Banks rose produces multiple blooms in March.

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