

Serenita Raspberry Angelonia

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Serenita Raspberry Angelonia (*Angelonia angustifolia*)

- **Recommended Use:** Warm-season color bedding plant
- **Exposure:** Full sun
- **Size:** Height: 10 to 16 inches; width: 12 to 14 inches
- **Habit:** Short height, mounding, trailing
- **Bloom Time:** Late spring until frost
- **Maintenance Category:** Easy
- **Water Use:** Average to low
- **Highlights:** Very reliable performer in all areas of Louisiana; tolerates heat, humidity and drought well with long-lasting colorful blooms as a summer color bedding plant.



Early Serenita Raspberry angelonia planting.

Summary

The Serenita angelonia (*Angelonia angustifolia*, Serenita Raspberry) is a herbaceous perennial grown as a warm-season color bedding plant in Louisiana. It is often referred to as summer snapdragon because its elegant flowers resemble an open-mouthed dragon. This plant grows as a bushy, spreading plant with narrow, dark green foliage and intense pink and lavender flowers with a darker center on spikes. They are vibrant and prolific bloomers from May through October and thrive in the summer heat and humidity. Serenita Raspberry angelonia is a gorgeous addition to the landscape and can be used as a border planting, a ground cover or as a plant for containers. It is also fantastic for attracting butterflies and bees.

Requirements

- Well-drained soil with pH of 5.5 to 6.5.
- Full sun to partial shade throughout the day for best performance.
- Requires regular watering weekly or more often in extreme heat to establish.

Growth Habit

- Compact, spreading growth habit. Can grow up to 10 to 14 inches tall and 12 to 14 inches wide.
- Can be grown as a colorful border planting, a ground cover or in a container.
- Plant in late April. Spacing should be 12 to 15 inches. Massed effect spacing for plants 8 to 12 inches apart.
- Hardiness zones 8 to 11.
- No pinching necessary for commercial production.

Care and Maintenance

- Angelonia should have regular watering for best performance, but established plantings are moderately drought tolerant. Allow the soil to dry out between watering.
- No pruning necessary, but periodic trimming is recommended to control the size and encourage healthy new growth.
- A slow-release fertilizer incorporated into the soil at planting time will ensure uniform growth. Supplement the slow-release fertilizer with liquid feed as needed to keep plants looking their best.
- Serenita Raspberry angelonia looks great in the landscape but also performs fantastically in containers.
- No major pests or diseases have been identified for Serenita angelonia in Louisiana; however, watch for aphids, spider mites, whitefly and fungal disease, such as powdery mildew and root rot.
- Can be seed-grown. Start seeds indoors about 10 to 12 weeks before the last spring frost date. Plants may also be purchased in spring from local nurseries and garden centers.
- Deadheading is not required.
- Deer and rabbit resistant.

For more information on Serenita Raspberry angelonia and other Louisiana Super Plants, contact your local LSU AgCenter extension office or visit www.LSUAgCenter.com/SuperPlants.



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