

# Lonicera sempervirens

## Trumpet or Coral Honeysuckle

Tried and True  
Native Plant Selections  
for the Mid-Atlantic



Low maintenance and showy, Trumpet Honeysuckle blooms intermittently until frost with coral flowers and red fruit present together. A more compact cultivar, 'John Clayton,' produces fragrant yellow flowers and copious orange-red fruit. It was discovered in 1991 on the grounds of a 17th century Virginia church. The species name "sempervirens" refers to the plant's evergreen habit, particularly in the South.\* The Virginia Native Plant Society selected Trumpet Honeysuckle as Wildflower of the Year for 2014.

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Vine	Spring Vines, Fall Flowers/Fruit, w/ Pollinators**
Height: 8–20 feet ('John Clayton' 6–12 feet)	 
Spread: 6–12 feet ('John Clayton' 3–5 feet)	
Bloom Color: Coral to red, with yellow	 
<b>Characteristics</b>	
Vigorous, <a href="#">twining</a> , semi-evergreen, <a href="#">perennial</a> vine	
<a href="#">Opposite</a> , oval, blue-green leaves, some <a href="#">perfoliate</a>	
<a href="#">Whorled</a> clusters of long, narrow, trumpet-shaped flowers, orange-red outside/yellow inside, bloom from April to June, then intermittently until frost	
Green <a href="#">berries</a> mature to red August to March	
<b>Attributes</b>	
Tolerates clay soil and Black Walnut	
No serious pests or diseases, although powdery mildew likely if air circulation is poor; deer occasionally browse foliage and stems	
Attracts hummingbirds, <a href="#">lepidopterans</a> , and bees to the flowers and birds to the berries; larval host to Hummingbird and Snowberry Clearwing moths	
<b>Growing and Maintenance Tips</b>	<b>Excellent Replacement for</b>
Soil Requirements: Loamy, well-drained soil	<a href="#">Akebia quinata</a> - Chocolate Vine
Light Requirements: Sun, Partial Shade	<a href="#">Celastrus orbiculatus</a> - Oriental Bittersweet
Water Requirements: Moist	<a href="#">Clematis terniflora</a> - Sweet Autumn Clematis
Transplants well	<a href="#">Humulus japonicus</a> - Japanese Hop
Sunnier the site, more prolific the flowers	<a href="#">Lonicera japonica</a> - Japanese Honeysuckle
Prune after flowering	<p>*It is native to DC, common in DE, and clustered mainly in the extreme southwestern corner of PA. In VA, it is frequent in the Coastal Plain and Piedmont and infrequent in the mountains. It is native to NoVA except for Fairfax County.</p> <p>**In mid-August, a ruby-throated hummingbird feeds on species flowers and a bumble bee visits 'John Clayton.'</p>
Use as climber on arbors, fences or as ground cover	
Hardiness: USDA Zones 4–9	
<i>developed by Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia, serving Arlington and Alexandria</i>	

Images by Elaine Mills (top left) and Mary Free, private gardens, Arlington, VA and (w/ bee) Glencarlyn Garden