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SPECIES	Sesuvium portulacastrum
COMMON NAME	Green Ice Plant, Sea Purslane
ORIGIN	Coastal areas worldwide
DESIGN USE	Sand dune fixation, desert greenification, landscaping and ornamental uses



HEIGHT

0.1-0.3m

SPREAD

0.5-2m

HABIT

Prostrate herb, the trailing stems root at the nodes to form a dense mat.



FLOWERS

Pale mauve-pink, 5-petaled, star shaped in leaf axis.

FLOWERING PERIOD

May to November

FRUIT

Fruit capsules (about ½ inch long) bearing shiny black seeds.



VARIATIONS

This pan tropical sp. Appears different in humid tropical areas with more open growth and larger leaves 4-6cm long. They often turn deep red under certain conditions.

CLIMATIC TOLERANCES

In its natural habitat of beaches and saltpan margins, this halophyte tolerates heat, sun, wind and occasional tidal inundation.

HORTICULTURE

In cultivation it seems to require full sun and perfect drainage with supplementary irrigation during prolonged drought. As its succulent stems and foliage are somewhat brittle, it can handle only occasional or light foot traffic.



REFERENCES

<http://titanarum.uconn.edu/199200439.html>

<http://www.springerlink.com/content/vt1q63lt16j22628/>

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