

# Description

Shrimp plant (*Justicia brandegeana*) earned its common name from its curved, segmented flower bracts, which resemble 3- to 6-inch-long shrimp. It needs little hands-on maintenance once established and will survive through drought and heat with no permanent damage. Shrimp plant will perform best under ideal growing conditions with regular watering and feeding.

## Growing Shrimp Plants From Seeds

- Soak shrimp plant seeds in a bowl of water for 24 hours.
- Fill a multi-cell planting tray with a quality seed-starting soil mix.
- Water the tray so that the soil is moist but not soaking.
- Plant one to two shrimp plant seeds  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep in each cell of the planting tray.
- Cover the planting tray, and keep it indoors in a location with temperatures around 70 degrees F in a place where it will receive 8 full hours of indirect sunlight.
- Uncover the planting tray when the seed germinates in one to three weeks. Keep growing conditions consistent and the soil moist with supplemental watering.
- Transplant the juvenile shrimp plants when they reach 5 inches in height (in four to six weeks) and all danger of frost has passed.