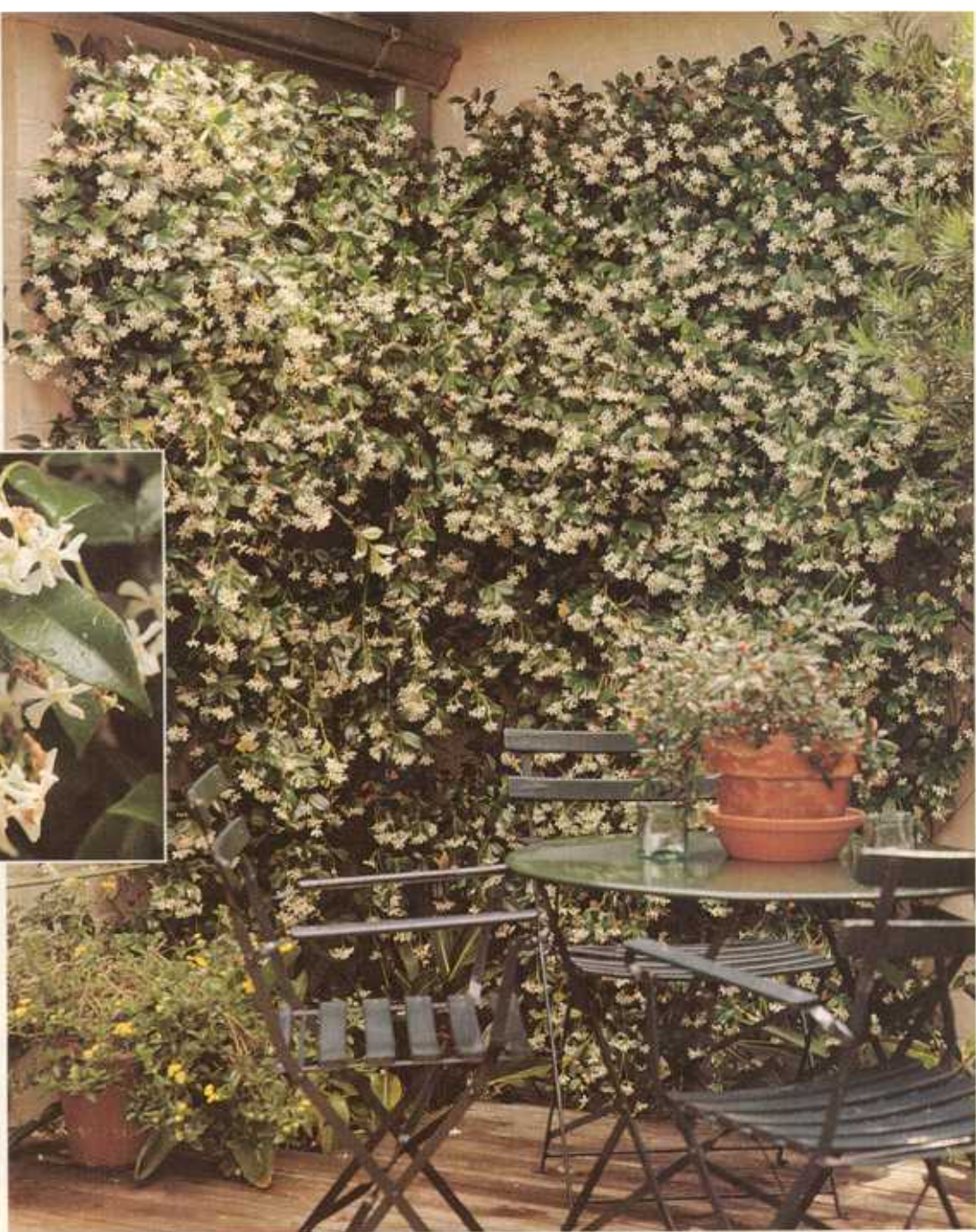


(Right) A narrow planting area and windowless walls made Confederate jasmine the perfect choice for dressing up this small deck. A trellis supports the vine.



(Above) Profuse flowers are best known for their fragrance. They are in bloom for six to eight weeks in late spring.



PHOTOGRAPHS: SYLVIA MARTIN / LANDSCAPE DESIGN; STEPHEN PATEGAS

## Sweet-Smelling Confederate Jasmine

Confederate jasmine—now that's a Southern name! This woody vine twines around whatever is handy, making it an excellent choice to grow on trellises, arbors, fences, lightposts, and mailboxes. Each April and May, the vine is hung with tiny star-shaped blooms. The creamy petals are pretty, but the real attraction is the fragrance—a heady perfume that lingers through the muggy spring days of the Lower and Coastal South.

Confederate jasmine (*Trachelospermum jasminoides*) grows in a thick tangle, so trim renegade shoots in the spring and summer to keep the

plant neat. It may also be grown as a ground cover, but upright shoots must be removed to keep the vine horizontal. (Asian jasmine—*Trachelospermum asiaticum*—lacks the trademark fragrance but stays compact, making it a better choice for ground cover.)

Confederate jasmine's glossy foliage stays green year-round, unless temperatures dip below freezing. Cold-damaged leaves will turn brown and cling to the stems, but the roots usually survive. Cut injured plants back to the ground in early spring to stimulate growth. In areas prone to

cold weather, plant the vine in a protected area, such as a walled courtyard. Or plant in a container you can move inside. And be prepared for everyone to ask in the spring, "What smells so good?" *—Jo Kellum*

### CONFEDERATE JASMINE AT A GLANCE:

**Foliage:** Evergreen  
**Blooms:** White, late spring  
**Soil:** No specific requirements  
**Light:** Sun to partial shade  
**Salt tolerant:** No  
**Range:** Lower and Coastal South