Railroad Vine

Today on Gardening in a Minute: railroad vine.

Railroad vine is an attractive native plant that makes a great groundcover for coastal gardens. It has a high tolerance for salty air and sandy soils, and can help prevent erosion around dunes.

This sprawling plant puts out low-growing runners covered with leathery green leaves. Each runner can easily reach thirty feet! It will need some pruning to stay in bounds.

Railroad vine can bloom at any time of year with pink, trumpet-shaped flowers, but it usually looks its best from May to November.

Railroad vine can also be grown inland in sunny, well-drained sites large enough to accommodate its rambling nature. The best time to plant is between March and October.

It’s drought tolerant once established, but you should provide regular watering until the plants take hold.

For more information about railroad vine and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.