

# BLUE DAWN FLOWER MORNING GLORY

## Rooted Cuttings Growing Instructions

**Family:** *Convolvulaceae* (kon-volv-yoo-LAY-see-ee)

**Genus:** *Ipomoea* (ip-oh-MEE-uh)      **Species:** *acuminata* (ah-kew-min-AY-tuh)

**Synonym:** *Ipomoea indica* , *Ipomoea Learii*

**Hardiness:**

USDA Zone 8b: to -1.1°C (30° F) For colder zones, take rooted cuttings into greenhouse over winter to replant in spring.

<b>Sun Exposure:</b>	<b>Bloom Time:</b>	<b>Height:</b>	To 30'
Full Sun	Blooms spring to frost		
Sun to Partial Shade	Blooms repeatedly		

This is a PERENNIAL Morning glory with an abundance of electric blue flowers which fade to purple-pink as the day goes on. Produces no seeds. Propagate by placing growing vines in a pot of soil and water daily for about a week or two. Roots will form on the vine in the pot. When well rooted, clip vine from the main plant and plant the newly rooted vine where desired. This plant spreads by sending runners across the ground; these runners will root naturally on the ground – these too can be dug up or pulled up and transplanted. This vine is excellent for areas that could use a large cover plant, like an embankment or fence line. The vine will freeze back in the winter and re-bud in the spring. In areas where this vine is not hardy, make several rootings of the vine to keep in a greenhouse over the winter. This vine is also suitable for growing in containers (like at the base of an arbor) and may be more easily controlled in a container.

You may plant your rooted cuttings directly in the garden (if temps permit – since these are tender at this point, just starting to root, it should be no colder than 45 degrees F at night and remain that temp or warmer for at least 1 month after planting in garden to allow good root formation; if it is colder than this, start in pots and keep in greenhouse or sunny window ledge inside. If using pots, I would use a 1 gallon size to allow plenty of room to cover the rooted portion of the vine with soil and leave room below it for root formation. If you are starting in the garden, plant your morning glory vines in full sun or partial shade in the desired area. Allow plenty of room for expansion, as this is a vigorous grower!

**MORE . . . .**

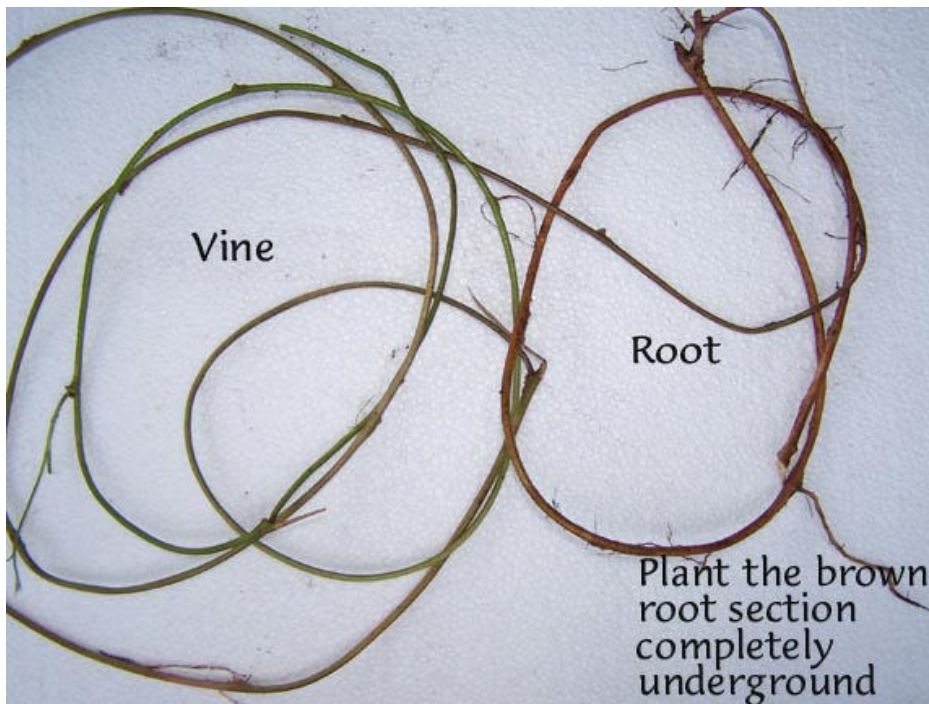


# Identifying the ROOTED part of your cuttings

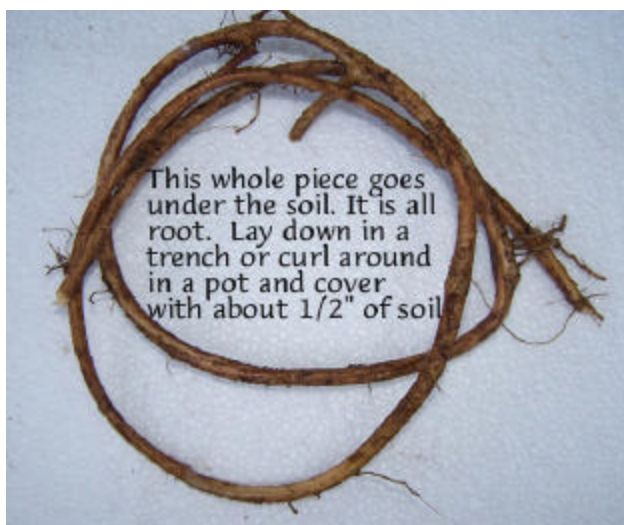
There are three types of rooted cuttings. You may have received only one type or some of all three types.



The first, and most common, looks like this (to the left). It is a green vine with roots growing down in at least one place on the vine. For this type, plant with the roots covered with soil. The remainder of the vine can be left uncovered or you may lay the whole vine down and cover other places that don't have roots, as well, to encourage more root formation.



The second type looks like this. It has one part that is green and another part that is tan/brown. The tan/brown part of the vine is ALL ROOT and that whole section should be covered with soil.



The last type possible is a piece that is 100% root stock. This is a tan/brown piece of vine and will have small roots coming from it in various areas. This whole piece of vine needs to be covered with soil, it is all root. Once it gets established in it's new home, it will sprout green vines in various places along the length of the root.

- **To start in pots:**

Place one or two of the slips per 1 gallon pot. Use soil with some non-burning fertilizer or compost added to promote faster growth. Place the root portion of your vine (see page 2 to identify what part of your vine is the root) about ½" - 1" deep in the soil. You may need to lay the entire length of cutting in a circle on the top of the soil in the pot and then cover each rooted area with 1" of soil (if you have all root stock, this means you would cover the entire cutting with soil). Keep soil evenly moist but not soggy. Keep in a warm location like a greenhouse or sunny window if it is cold outside. If you are rooting these in the fall or winter, you may want to keep them inside until spring to allow a good root system to form before subjecting them to winter temps. Of course, if you have very mild winters in your area, this is not necessary. Generally, you will have a nice root-ball formed within about 6 weeks of potting (depending on temperature and care. They grow faster in warmer temps).

- **To start in ground/garden:**

*Again, if you are starting these in the fall or winter, it is best to start them in pots inside where they can be kept warm.*

I suggest that you lay the entire slip flat on the ground and cover each rooted portion with 1" - 2" of soil. Leave any green portion of vine that does not have any roots uncovered. You may wind the green portion up a fence or trellis. Keep soil evenly moist on the roots. This vine grows fast in the spring and summer, slower in the fall or cooler months. It may take several weeks to see new growth on your cuttings – especially in cooler months. It is not unusual for the end of a green vine to turn brown if it had been cut. These vines are nearly impossible to kill, so as long as the vines are not completely brown, they are still alive and will begin new growth for you – don't give up! It is not unusual for some of the leaves to turn brown or die – believe me, it will come back, give it a little time and soon it will be growing well.

- **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

**This morning glory will climb or grow along the ground equally well; allow plenty of room (at least 6'-8' in all directions) on the ground around the vine for it to run.**

It is not unusual for the cut ends of the vines to die back / turn brown. New growth/vines will begin near the roots in this case; don't be discouraged if you see the cut ends look like they are dying.

This vine will thrive in slightly moist soil, but will grow very well in dry areas, as well – BUT WILL NEED SOME REGULAR WATERING TO GET ESTABLISHED. Apply fertilizer as you would your other perennials. I simply sprinkle a little 10-10-10 around the plants every month or so during the growing season. Be careful not to OVER-FERTILIZE, which can damage or kill your plants. Less is more with fertilizer; more can be deadly! These vines will die back with a frost, but will return in the spring. They are hardy to about 30° F.

If you have any problem at all, please don't hesitate to email me!