

Border Forsythia

Forsythia x intermedia



Top: The dwarf cultivar 'Cortasol' in

Left: The distinctive yellow flowers appear before the leaves bud out

Border Forsythia

Forsythia x intermedia

Family: Oleaceae

Stem & Leaf Type: deciduous shrub

Size: 8-10' tall x 10' wide, cultivars get as small as 3'

USDA Hardiness Zones: 4-8

Leaves : opposite, simple leaves with toothed margin and oblong base. Glabrous.

Leaf Color: medium to dark green

Fall Color: green to yellow-green most years, sometimes develops hints of red or purple

Flower Time: 2-3 weeks in late March to mid-April

Flower Color: pale to deep yellow

Fruit: Non-ornamental two-celled capsule

Light: Full sun

Moisture: well-drained to sandy; adaptable

Insect/Disease Issues: Occasionally bothered by crown gall, leaf spot, and spider mites.

Nativity: Cultivated

Location in the Gardens:

Children's Garden South Buff

East Entry Garden



Culture & Landscape Value: One of the earliest shrubs to flower. Best used in a shrub border or mass plantings with small evergreens or spring blooming herbaceous plants. Flower buds often die when temperatures reach -10° , leaving the plant bare of flowers above the snowline. Several cultivated varieties have been produced with hardier flower buds—among them the Iowa State University introduction 'Sunrise'.

Notes: Border Forsythia should be pruned after flowering. The oldest stems can be cut to the ground, or the entire plant can be taken back to the ground.

Months of Interest:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec