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Pretoria Canna
Canna 'Pretoria'

Height: 8 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Description:

This tall variety with impressive chartreuse and dark green striped leaves, is crowned with brilliant orange blooms with yellow edges in summer and fall; perfect for the back of borders or as an accent; perennial only where roots don't freeze

Ornamental Features

Pretoria Canna features bold spikes of orange flag-like flowers with yellow edges at the ends of the stems from mid summer to mid fall. Its attractive large pointy leaves remain chartreuse in color with prominent dark green stripes throughout the year. The fruit is not ornamentally significant.

Landscape Attributes

Pretoria Canna is an herbaceous annual with a rigidly upright and towering form. Its wonderfully bold, coarse texture can be very effective in a balanced garden composition.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting hummingbirds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading

Pretoria Canna is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Pretoria Canna in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Pretoria Canna flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Pretoria Canna will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Pretoria Canna is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.