

Stonegate Gardens

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Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily



Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily

Victoria cruziana

Plant Height: 12 inches

Flower Height: 16 inches

Spread: 15 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Giant Waterlily

Description:

A tropical water lily with flowers that emerge white, then develop light pink streaks; huge, round green leaves with upturned edges float on waters surface, making a great visual display; water lilies dislike moving water; annual in colder climates

Ornamental Features

Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily features showy fragrant white cup-shaped flowers at the ends of the stems from early summer to late fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive enormous glossy round leaves remain olive green in color with distinctive pink edges and tinges of chartreuse throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily is an herbaceous annual with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other garden plants with finer foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Water Gardens
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting
- Bog Gardens



Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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Planting & Growing

Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 16 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 15 feet. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. 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 does best in full sun to partial shade. It is an excellent choice for very wet locations or locations with some standing water. To help this plant achieve its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.