



Ram's Horn Croton

Codiaeum variegatum 'Ram's Horn'

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 10a

Other Names: Garden Croton, Variegated Laurel, Joseph's Coat

Description:

This variety is considered a houseplant in colder climates, and noted for its unusual foliage; glossy, folded, recurved leaves that look like ram's horns, marked with yellow variegation; creates a striking look for frost free gardens or patio containers

Ornamental Features

Ram's Horn Croton features dainty racemes of white star-shaped flowers from late winter to early spring. Its attractive recurved narrow leaves remain dark green in color with showy yellow variegation throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Ram's Horn Croton is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Ram's Horn Croton is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Ram's Horn Croton foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Ram's Horn Croton will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evergreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets.

Ram's Horn Croton 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. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.