

Agapanthus 'Headbourne Hybrids', Lily-of-the-Nile. (sun)(Zones 6-10)(2x2 feet)

Considered to be among the hardiest of *Agapanthus*, these seed grown plants will impress with sumptuous globes of blue, purple and, lavender. Perfect for container use, or, if you feel lucky try one in the garden and see if it is hardy.

1GAL \$7.45 #1922

Agapanthus 'Baby Blue', Baby Blue Lily-of-the-Nile. (sun)(Zones 6-9)(18x12 inches)

A charming Heronswood nursery introduction we have come appreciate for its mid summer offering of silvery, powder blue flowers. This is a shorter selection well-suited to container use. Also, it is rated amongst the hardiest of the *Agapanthus*. Although did not prove hearty here last winter.

1GAL \$7.45 #1950

Alocasia odora, Upright Elephant Ear. (sun/sh)(Zone 10)(4x4 feet)

For those desiring a tropical feel to their landscape, this plant is not to be without. The spade- shaped glossy leaves of gargantuan proportion commingle well with both sun and shade plants. Prefers a moist well-drained soil and lots of nutrition. Can be dried down and stored for the winter.

3GAL \$14.95 #2314

Clivia miniata, Bush Lily. (psh/sh)(Zones 10-11)(24x24 inches)

Beautiful strappy, leathery, evergreen leaves emanate in a single plane from the roots and form heavy clumps over time. The orange and yellow flowers appear in fall and winter in dense clusters lifting the winter blues. Fleshy, red seed clusters develop and can be coaxed to germinate if given warmth and patience.

1GAL \$11.45 #0621

Colocasia esculenta, Elephant Ear. (sun/sh)(Zones 7-11)(5x6 feet)

Giant, spade-shaped, tropical-looking leaves are the perfect foil for other annuals. Each new leaf is larger than the last. With a little fertilizer and compost, one can have a massive display after just one season. Known as Taro in some tropical regions where the starchy tuber is a staple foodcrop. Store the tuber in dried peat for the winter.

2GAL \$12.95 #2054

Dais cotinifolia, Pompontree. (sun)(Zones 9-11)(18x18 feet)

This is far from hardy here, the best (and only) specimen of this I have ever seen was in Auckland, NZ where it wowed with large clusters of waxy pink blooms absolutely covering the tree. This is in the same family as *Daphne* and that's the only reason we have it. Hopefully we get some customers in Southern California.

1GAL \$7.95 #2457

Dendrobium moniliforme 'Tosa Fukurin', Variegated Dendrobium. (psh)(Zones 8-11)(15x12 inches)

The Japanese have been selecting variegated forms of this diminutive orchid for hundreds of years. This form boasts heavily variegated leaves with white margins that are pink in spring and during cooler weather. The small, creamy white flowers occur in early spring.

1QT \$24.95 #24.64

Euphorbia characias, Mediterranean Spurge. (sun)(Zones 7-9)(3x5 feet)

It sure would be nice to be able to grow this beauty outside here. It will live in an unheated cold frame, but does not stand a chance outside. Heavy stems of tightly spaced, blue-green leaves that are topped with absolutely enormous clusters of chartreuse flowers in early spring. Very common in the western US.

2GAL \$7.45 #0773

Myrtus communis 'Variegata', Variegated Common Myrtle. (sun/psh)(Zones 8-10)(15x12 feet)

The same as the above, but with stunningly variegated foliage. An exceptional plant for mixed container plantings as well as houseplant.

2GAL \$13.45 #2073

Neomarica northiana, Walking Iris. (sun/psh)(Zones 8-10)(24x36 inches)

Lusty clumps of upright, spear-like foliage with the curious trait of sprouting a new plant from each leaf tip as they lay over into the soil. In this way, the plant can form large clumps in a short time where competition is minimal. The flowers are very Iris-like and each petal is so intricately detailed they look like tiny Persian carpets. Not hardy, but a superb and easy plant for the sunroom or cool room of the house.

1GAL \$13.95 #2867

***Phormium cookianum*, Mountain Flax.**

(sun/psh)(Zones 8-10)(3x2 feet)

These are not in the least bit hardy, but their brazen colors and architectural form make them ideal for mixed container plantings and as houseplants. Their spiky texture is perfect for contrasting with finely textured annuals and the plants lend a certain exotic flair to plantings that is not obtained from other plants. The difference between this and *P. tenax* is that seedheads of the former are drooping, while those of the latter are erect. Requires well-drained soil and good air circulation to thrive.

A. *P. c.* 'Flamingo'. An aptly named form we brought back from Heronswood a few years ago. This forms relatively short clumps of foliage that is bronzed on the edges and salmon pink and orange in the center. Very colorful and more vigorous than other similarly variegated types.

1GAL \$13.45 #1651

B. *P. c.* 'Variegata'. Another shorter-growing variety with colorful leaves of green with a white and cream margin. A fabulous plant for mixed containers and a good replacement for the overly abused 'spike plant'.

1GAL \$13.45 #1644

***Phormium tenax*, New Zealand Flax.**

(sun/psh)(Zones 8-10)(5x3 feet)

Basically identical to the above, but we list a few cultivars in colors not realized in the aforementioned species, at least not those in our collection. Upright, architectural plants with stiff, wide leaves come in a variety of color patterns. Like the aforementioned species, a good replacement for the 'spike' and also an excellent houseplant. Will form clumps as large as the mentioned size, but it takes many years and our plants are 1 or 2 eye divisions that are well established.

A. *P. t.* 'Atropurpurea'. Beautiful leaves stained in varying shades of purple and burgundy. A highly textural and colorful component of any planting scheme that imparts an air of the exotic to the scene.

2GAL \$17.95 #1652

B. *P. t.* 'Bronze-leaved'. We are not sure what cultivar this is, but we do know it's an extraordinary plant. The tall stems look as though cast from bronze and are a rusty-brown color not often seen in the plant world.

2GAL \$17.95 #1653

C. *P. t.* 'Yellow Wave'. A variegated form with a wide yellow stripe down the center of each leaf and green edges. Large plants present an impressive display and always draw attention in containers.

1GAL \$12.95 #1307

***Puya caerulea var. violacea*.**

(sun)(Zones 7-10)(7x3 feet)

An interesting member of the Bromeliaceae from the arid regions of Chile, where it forms spiny, ground-hugging rosettes of stiff, recurved foliage and tall spikes of inky purple flowers with peach-colored bracts. Not hardy in our zone, but seems easy enough to grow that it might be worth trying as a houseplant. There's no need to fill the center of the rosette with water as in other bromeliads.

1GAL \$7.45 #1568

***Selaginella kraussiana* 'Gold Tips', Gold Tips Spikemoss.**

(psh/sh)(Zones 6-10)(3x15 inches)

There's just something about moss that people can't resist, and this is no exception. Not even a true moss at all, this is more closely allied to ferns than anything else. Low, creeping mats of soft, moss-like foliage that is gold at the tips and lime green in summer. Perfect for use in mixed container plantings for shade, this is the most vigorous grower of the varieties we have tried. I'm not sure about hardiness, but plants in our raised woodland beds still have some green left in them as I write this in late February.

1QT \$4.95 #1885