



## Gold Dust Narrow Leaf Croton

*Codiaeum variegatum 'Punctatum Aureum'*

Height: 6 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ☐ ☒

Hardiness Zone: 10a

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

### Description:

This woody perennial is considered as a houseplant in colder climates, and noted for its striking foliage; glossy, leathery narrow leaves of green, covered with fine yellow specks; a striking accent for frost free gardens or patio containers

### Ornamental Features

Gold Dust Narrow Leaf Croton features dainty racemes of white star-shaped flowers from late winter to early spring. Its attractive small glossy narrow leaves remain dark green in color with distinctive yellow spots throughout the year.

### Landscape Attributes

Gold Dust Narrow Leaf 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.

Gold Dust Narrow Leaf Croton is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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



Gold Dust Narrow Leaf Croton foliage  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

**Planting & Growing**

Gold Dust Narrow Leaf Croton will grow to be about 6 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 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. 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.

Gold Dust Narrow Leaf 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.