Big Red Kangaroo Paw

Anigozanthos 'Big Red'

Plant Height: 24 inches

Flower Height: 6 feet

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: Cat's Paw

Description:

An attractive tall variety with strappy foliage that may reach two feet in height; stunning dark red flowers rise above in spring and summer; a great color addition to garden beds, borders or containers



Big Red Kangaroo Paw flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Big Red Kangaroo Paw features unusual racemes of dark red flowers rising above the foliage from late spring to mid fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its sword-like leaves remain dark green in color throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Big Red Kangaroo Paw is an open herbaceous evergreen perennial with an upright spreading 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 is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Big Red Kangaroo Paw is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Big Red Kangaroo Paw in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Big Red Kangaroo Paw will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity extending to 6 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 24 inches. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. 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.

Big Red Kangaroo Paw 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.