Red and Green Kangaroo Paw

Anigozanthos manglesii

Plant Height: 24 inches

Flower Height: 5 feet

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: Mangles Kangaroo Paw, Cat's Paw

Description:

An attractive, unusual variety that features dark green, velvety flowers that rise on bright red stems, above strappy green foliage; a gorgeous accent for garden beds, containers and cut flower arrangements; prefers light sandy soil; attracts hummingbirds



Red and Green Kangaroo Paw flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Red and Green Kangaroo Paw in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Red and Green Kangaroo Paw features unusual racemes of dark green flowers with silver tips rising above the foliage from late spring to mid fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its sword-like leaves remain green in color throughout the year. The cherry red stems are very colorful and add to the overall interest of the plant.

Landscape Attributes

Red and Green 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 is a good choice for attracting hummingbirds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Red and Green Kangaroo Paw is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Red and Green Kangaroo Paw will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity extending to 5 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 18 inches apart. 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 does best in average conditions that are neither too wet nor too dry, and is very intolerant of standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Red and Green 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.