Bulbillifera Aloe

Aloe bulbillifera var. bulbillifera



Bulbillifera Aloe in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 3 feet

Flower Height: 7 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 9

Description:

A solitary, stemless rosette of green, lance shaped leaves that are often tinged red, edged with fine, yellowish-white teeth; produces racemes of yellow tipped, red-orange flowers with bulbils on the main stem; a wonderful garden or container accent

Ornamental Features

Bulbillifera Aloe's attractive succulent sword-like leaves remain light green in color with hints of brick red throughout the year on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth. It features dainty racemes of red tubular flowers with orange overtones and buttery yellow tips rising above the foliage from mid winter to early spring.

Landscape Attributes

Bulbillifera Aloe is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its wonderfully bold, coarse texture can be very effective in a balanced garden composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and usually looks its best without pruning, although it will tolerate pruning. 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.

Bulbillifera Aloe is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Bulbillifera Aloe will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity extending to 7 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 3 feet. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. 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 pH, but grows best in sandy soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Bulbillifera Aloe 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.