Hilo Beauty Caladium

Caladium praetermissum 'Hilo Beauty'



Hilo Beauty Caladium foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 18 inches

Spacing: 14 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Angel Wings, Elephant Ears

Description:

This stunning variety offers speckles, splashes, and spectacular contrast; large, medium to dark green leaves are speckled with contrasting creamy white variegation; a wonderful specimen in garden beds and patio containers

Ornamental Features

Hilo Beauty Caladium's attractive heart-shaped leaves remain forest green in color with showy creamy white variegation throughout the season on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth.

Landscape Attributes

Hilo Beauty Caladium is a dense herbaceous annual 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 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.

Hilo Beauty Caladium is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets

Planting & Growing

Hilo Beauty Caladium will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 18 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 14 inches apart. Although it's not a true annual, this plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant does best in partial shade to full shade. Keep it well away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by multiplication of the underground bulbs; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Hilo Beauty Caladium is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. 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.