



**Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily**  
*Victoria cruziana*

Plant Height: 12 inches

Flower Height: 16 inches

Spread: 15 feet

Sunlight: ☉ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Giant Waterlily

**Description:**

A tropical water lily with flowers that emerge white, then develop light pink streaks; huge, round green leaves with upturned edges float on waters surface, making a great visual display; water lilies dislike moving water; annual in colder climates

**Ornamental Features**

Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily features showy fragrant white cup-shaped flowers at the ends of the stems from early summer to late fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive enormous glossy round leaves remain olive green in color with distinctive pink edges and tinges of chartreuse throughout the year.

**Landscape Attributes**

Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily is an herbaceous annual with a low habit of growth, spreading atop the surface of the water. 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 should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily is ideally suited for growing in a pond, water garden or patio water container, and is recommended for the following landscape applications;



*Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

- Water Gardens
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting
- Bog Gardens

### **Planting & Growing**

Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 16 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 15 feet. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the water, not requiring facer plants in front. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing 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 full sun to partial shade. As an aquatic plant, it requires a suitable water garden environment and will benefit from special planting and ongoing care practices; consult one of our in-store experts for further details and instructions. To help this plant achieve its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Santa Cruz Tropical Water Lily is a fine choice for the water garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when grown in outdoor pots and containers, aquatic plants like this one will require a special growing environment that meets their requirement for consistent moisture.