

Botanical Name: Sparaxis tricolor

Common Name: Harlequin flower

Type of Plant: monocot: perennial Character deciduous corm

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape small upright clumps of grassy foliage, brightly colored
flowers held above foliage; flowers over a long period through the spring

Height to 12" Spread to 12" Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun

Soil prefers good drainage

Hardiness some frost -- zones 9, 12-24

Morphology:

Leaves grassy flattened leaves to 10" forming symmetrical fans
which spread nearly from base; midrib present but not prominent

Flowers brightly colored petals with contrasting blotches -- colors
come in reds, oranges and yellows of different shades, many blooms per stem

Fruit small 3-valved capsule

Propagation: seed, division

Usage: good in mass plantings in sunny beds; naturalizes easily
with little care; seeds freely to form dense plantings; good southern
California landscapes

Landscape Care:

Watering takes moderate watering while growing and flowering;
tolerates summer water while dormant

Fertilizing slow-release at planting time

Pruning remove dead leaves after summer die-back

Pests/Diseases none

Special Conditions seeds freely, can be invasive

Origin: South Africa Family: Iridaceae