

Botanical Name: Tolmiea menziesii

Common Name: Piggyback plant

Type of Plant: dicot: perennial Family Saxifragaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape clumping, spreading foliage plant with medium green leaves with small plantlets arising from the base of each leaf

Height to 3 ft. Spread indefinite Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure in/outdoors partial shade outdoors; prefers bright, cool conditions inside

Soil prefers good drainage

Hardiness Hardy; zones 4-9, 20-24

Morphology:

Leaves Deltoid to somewhat cordate, palmately lobed medium green leaves covered with 1/8" hairs; leaves to 4" long, 3" across; young plants arise from the bases

Flowers terminal racemes of tiny purplish flowers appear irregularly throughout the year

Fruit slender capsule to 5/8" long

Propagation: plants arising from leaves can be rooted any time

Usage: used as a hanging houseplant for its attractive foliage and peculiar leaf-borne plantlets; also can be used as a groundcover in shaded areas of forest-themed landscapes; can spread indefinitely

Landscape Care:

Watering needs regular watering; not drought tolerant

Fertilizing little required

Pruning pinch regularly to encourage bushiness; remove dead flowers

Pests/Diseases mealybugs and spider mites

Other needs fairly high humidity to succeed as a houseplant

Origin: Coastal areas from Northern California to British Columbia