

Botanical Name: Saintpaulia ionantha

Common Name: African Violet

Type of Plant: dicot: houseplant Character Evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a rosette cluster of fuzzy, fleshy leaves, sometimes
becoming multi-stemmed with short, thick, brittle stems

Height to 8" Spread to 15" Growth Rate slow

Environment:

Exposure indoor very bright light preferred, window or florescent

Soil prefers a coarse, well-drained, peat-based soil

Hardiness suffers leaf burn in dry air, tender to temp. change

Morphology:

Leaves blades nearly round to 2 ½" long on long petioles -
covered with short silvery hairs, dark green above -- paler beneath

Flowers 8-10 flowers on long peduncles. Each flower to 1" wide;
purple, white, pink -- single or double petals

Fruit cylindrical capsule in ¾" long, 1/8" diameter

Propagation: leaf cuttings, stem cuttings, division, seed

Usage: widely used as houseplant for flowers in Fall/Winter.

Best growth often under artificial light, or very bright windows.

Landscape Care:

Watering water from above or with wick -- keep water off
leaves and stems -- allow to dry thoroughly between waterings

Fertilizing low nitrogen -- 1/2 strength 2X/mo. Keep off leaves

Pruning can be divided when too large -- remove dead leaves

Pests/Diseases cyclamen mites, aphids, thrips, mealybug

Special Conditions bloom best when crowded and somewhat rootbound

Origin: E. Africa Family: Gesneriaceae