

Botanical Name: Aloe saponaria

Common Name: Soap aloe

Type of Plant: monocot; succulent Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape low, clumping plant, several stubby, fleshy stems arise from a common base, each enclosed with distinctively fleshy leaves in rosette patterns

Height 6"-12" (15") Spread 1' - 4' Growth Rate slow-moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full/partial sun; tolerates shade inland

Soil prefers well draining sandy soils

Hardiness hardy (zones 8,9, 12-24); prefers warm coastal habitats

Morphology:

Leaves fleshy, triangular, broadly swordshaped, whorled on short stems, dull green, pale spots, toothed margins 1/8", 6"-10" long

Flowers orange-pale shrimp pink, tubular, 3/4"-1" long, erect, tall panicle 18"-30" long, arising from apex; March through June

Fruit 3/4" long oblong capsule

Propagation: division of clump, seed

Usage: succulent for attractive fleshy leaves and long flowering time; excellent small accent for limited space gardens; container plant, informal borders, facers; houseplant

Landscape Care:

Watering occasional deep soak, very drought tolerant after established

Fertilizing little required

Pruning none; remove old flower stalks; may need to divide old clumps

Pests/Diseases snails/slugs; soil root fungus in poorly drained soil; viral induced fasciation of flower stalks

Special Conditions

Origin: S. Africa Family: Liliaceae