

Botanical Name: Aechmea fasciata

Common Name: Silver-cup bromeliad

Type of Plant: monocot: perennial Family Bromeliaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape Clumping, rosette-forming upright plant with gray-green strap-like
spiny leaves; flowers usually appear from spikes inside the center of the rosette

Height to 2 ft. Spread to 2 ft. Growth Rate slow

Environment:

Exposure in/out partial shade outdoors, takes bright light indoors

Soil needs fast-draining soil; can be mounted on boards

Hardiness tender outdoors -- Zones 23 and 24; durable indoors

Morphology:

Leaves broad, strap-like leaves with silvery "bloom" forming horizontal
stripes across leaves; margins are toothed, 2-4" wide to 18" long

Flowers bracts spiny, pink to purple, 3" long or more; flowers purple to
red, 1/2" long -- blooms naturally in early spring

Fruit tiny berries; dries to cottony tufts with tiny seeds

Propagation: seed, division, meristem culture

Usage: houseplant with long lasting flowers, good for foliage color --
usually used singly in pots, sometimes in mass plantings in atrium gardens

Landscape Care:

Watering keep fairly dry -- can be watered in "cup" about every 10 days

Fertilizing 1/2 strength liquid fertilizer every month or so

Pruning divide mother plant after flowering; discard original plant

Pests/Diseases scale, thrips, root rot in poorly drained soils

Other ethylene gas from ripening fruit will stimulate bloom

Origin: Brazil