

Botanical Name: Hosta species

Common Name: Hosta, Plantain lily

Type of Plant: monocot: perennial Family Liliaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape clumping, dense plant with short petioles and broad,
usually multicolored leaves, with flower spikes arising above in summer

Height to 2 ft. Spread to 4 ft. Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoor shade to partial shade

Soil prefers well-amended, organic soils

Hardiness hardy, Zones 1-10, 14-21 some in Zones 22-24

Morphology:

Leaves ovate, to 8" long, 6" across, usually variegated in colors
of light green, gold, yellow or white; variable in size and shape

Flowers tubular flowers in spikes to 18" high; usually white or light
blue

Fruit inconspicuous 3-valved capsule

Propagation: division, seed

Usage: prized foliage plant for shaded, moist spots in the garden;
excellent in containers in southern California, good in temperate climate
gardens

Landscape Care:

Watering needs regular summer water

Fertilizing balanced fertilizer in spring before foliage appears

Pruning remove dead leaves and dead flowers; prune away all in winter

Pests/Diseases snails and slugs are a serious threat to Hostas

Other plant goes completely deciduous in winter

Origin: most are hybrids, parent species from China to Korea