

Botanical Name: Calathea species

Common Name: Calathea

Type of Plant: monocot: perennial Family Marantaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape Upright, clumping plants with dramatic, colorful leaves which resemble Maranta; best known varieties are 'Rosie O'Picta' and 'Rosie O'Day'

Height to 15" Spread to 1 ft. Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure indoors prefers bright, humid conditions

Soil average, well-drained potting soil

Hardiness Tender, indoor use only

Morphology:

Leaves broadly ovate, to 10" long or more, with brightly colored patterns or stripes in colors of green, yellow, purple and red

Flowers inconspicuous brown flowers borne near soil surface; to 1" across

Fruit small capsule; inconspicuous

Propagation: division, stem cuttings, tissue culture

Usage: brightly colored container plant for single specimen use; excellent tropical filler used in mass plantings in atrium gardens

Landscape Care:

Watering needs regular watering; use purified water where possible

Fertilizing half strength liquid fertilizing every other month

Pruning remove dead leaves

Pests/Diseases mites, mealybugs, salt burn

Other plant is very susceptible to salt burn with untreated water

Origin: Tropical America