

Botanical Name: Codiaeum variegatum

Common Name: Croton

Type of Plant: dicot: houseplant Family Euphorbiaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape A woody upright plant which can have widely variable leaf sizes and colors; growth habit ranges from narrow and upright to broad and spreading

Height to 6 ft. Spread to 6 ft. Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure indoors prefers bright, warm, humid conditions

Soil needs a well drained potting soil

Hardiness tender – Zone 24 outdoors, challenging indoors

Morphology:

Leaves variable from narrow and sword-like to broad, oval to ovate; most forms have golden, yellow or reddish-orange spots or stripes

Flowers small yellow-white flowers in axillary cymes

Fruit 3 valved capsule

Propagation: stem cuttings, seed

Usage: specimen houseplants, tropical patio or atrium plants used for highly decorative leaves and form; used as a hedge or filler plant in tropical gardens of Central America, Hawaii and other tropical regions

Landscape Care:

Watering needs regular watering – keep moist and maintain high humidity for best appearance

Fertilizing balanced, slow-release fertilizer each spring

Pruning head back to induce bushiness

Pests/Diseases red spider mite, aphids, scale

Other

Origin: India