

Botanical Name: Russelia equisetiformis

Common Name: Coral fountain, Firecracker plant

Type of Plant: dicot: perennial Family Scrophulariaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape Sprawling, fountain-shaped perennial with long, trailing,
nearly leafless stems; tubular flowers in bright red or coral pink

Height to 5 ft. Spread to 5 ft. Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun to partial shade; thrives in coastal sun

Soil prefers a well-drained loam; plenty of organic matter

Hardiness some frost: Zones 14; 19-24

Morphology:

Leaves to 5/8" long, elliptical to oval, dropping off early; usually
formed in whorls of 5 or 6, frequently reddish or bronzy in color

Flowers tubular flowers to 1" long, bright scarlet or coral pink;
flowers throughout the warm season

Fruit tiny capsule

Propagation: easy to propagate from cuttings in the spring

Usage: interesting hanging basket plant or specimen plant cascading
over a wall or bank; can be tied to a trellis or grown in rock gardens; good
hummingbird attractor

Landscape Care:

Watering likes regular watering; not particularly drought tolerant

Fertilizing feed frequently with dilute liquid fertilizer

Pruning head back dead flowering stems; thin occasionally

Pests/Diseases mealybug

Other

Origin: Mexico