

Botanical Name: Acalypha wilkesiana

Common Name: Copper leaf

Type of Plant: dicot: perennial Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape loosely constructed, upright shrubby perennial mostly
used for its bronzy or green mottled, somewhat folded leaves; can reach shrub-
like proportions if planted in a protected area

Height 6 to 10 ft. Spread 4 to 6 ft. Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoor shade to part shade -- protect from sun and wind

Soil well-drained container mix, or well-amended soil

Hardiness tender to cold, zones 21 to 23

Morphology:

Leaves simple, ovate, alternately arranged with coarsely crenate
margins; medium green color often mottled or striped with orange or red pigment

Flowers spikes of female flowers toward the branch tips, male
flowers in small hanging strings close to the base of the plant; inconspicuous

Fruit tiny capsule

Propagation: stem cuttings during warm months

Usage: container plant or tropical filler used for brightly colored
foliage; sometimes used as an annual plant substituted for annual flowers; used
extensively in Hawaii and other tropical climate areas

Landscape Care:

Watering prefers regular watering, keep somewhat dry during winter
months; avoid overwatering in heavy soils

Fertilizing balanced, slow-release fertilizer during the spring

Pruning head back to encourage bushiness

Pests/Diseases scale, aphids, mealybug

Special Conditions _____

Origin: Fiji Family: Euphorbiaceae