

Botanical Name: Dietes iridioides

Common Name: Fortnight lily

Type of Plant: monocot; perennial Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape clump of stiff, narrow, upright, grass-like leaves from a
common base--becoming fairly widespread with age

Height 3' Spread 3-4' Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors prefers full sun, tolerates partial

Soil prefers well-draining, tolerates most

Hardiness hardy (zones 8-24)

Morphology:

Leaves narrow, grass-like, parallel-veined, stiff, 2-3' long, to
1" wide, pointed tips, clumping

Flowers white, iris-shaped, 3-4' slender stalks, 2" diameter, blue/
yellow centers -- spring through fall, every 2-3 weeks

Fruit 1-1/2 to 2" long, tan capsule

Propagation: seed, division

Usage: small accent; used for form, foliage, flowers filler in
clumps, and scattered groupings

Landscape Care:

Watering regular--especially in summer

Fertilizing balanced in spring

Pruning bacterial leaf spot, snails/slugs

Pests/Diseases remove old dead leaves and flower stalks in winter

Special Conditions reseeds heavily; remove seed pods quickly to prevent spread

Origin: Tropical Africa Family: Iridaceae