

Botanical Name: Veltheimia bracteata

Common Name: Veltheimia, Forest lily

Type of Plant: monocot: bulb Character Summer deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape thick, fleshy bulbous plant with glossy foliage forming

a basal rosette -- may go completely dormant during the summer months

Height to 2 ft. Spread to 2 ft. Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure in/outdoor direct, bright (south) light indoors; half-shade outdoors

Soil prefers a well-drained potting soil -- add perlite

Hardiness tender to cold (keep above 55 degrees)

Morphology:

Leaves strap-shaped, dark green and glossy, to 1 ft long, 4"

wide -- margins distinctly undulate, dark purple mottling at base

Flowers terminal raceme of tubular pink to violet flowers, 1" long,

scape to 2 ft. long

Fruit small 3-valved capsule

Propagation: seeds, division of offsets

Usage: good flowering houseplant for winter color -- use in a

prominent spot during growth and bloom -- but keep out of sight while

foliage dies back in summer.

Landscape Care:

Watering needs regular watering during growth and flowering --

allow to dry out after bloom dies

Fertilizing low N fertilizer during active growth --none after blooming

Pruning remove dead leaves and flower stalk, can cut back in spring

Pests/Diseases no major pest problems

Special Conditions plant bulb high in soil to prevent root rot

Origin: S. Africa Family: Liliaceae