



Key To Tropical Garden Planting

- AR= Ardisia
- CORD= Cordyline
- CR= Crinum (Spider flower)
- CROT= Croton (Joseph's Coat)
- CYC= Cycad
- DR= Dracaena
- EG= Evergreen Giant
- GC= Golden Cane Palm
- F= Frangipani
- LG= Magnolia Little Gem
- IRE= Iresine (Blood Leaf Plant)
- KP= Kentia Palm
- MP= Majestic Palm
- OP= Oyster Plant
- RH= Rhoec (Moses in the Cradle)
- RS= Cordyline Red Sensation.
- NRL= New Zealand Rock Lily
- VG= Variegated Ginger
- Xan= Xanadu
- YW= Yellow Wave Flax

GOING TROPPO!

Give Your Garden a Cool Tropical Make Over! *Creating a shady tropical garden.*

Shady, protected areas of the garden are ideal for developing into your own patch of tropical paradise. The protection from the sun's burning rays will allow you to grow a range of more tender foliage and flowering plants successfully outdoors.

Getting Started

Prior to planting, dig in plenty of Dawson's Soil Improver to enrich the soil. This style of garden has a higher water requirement than others, so mulching heavily is essential. Consider using drippers or micro in-line drippers to effectively deliver water to the root zone of your plants. Tender tropical style plants will need additional hand watering several times a week, while establishing over the warmer months. After planting apply a soil wetter like Aqua Wett or Grosorb, around your plants. Soil Wetters allow your precious irrigation water to penetrate more effectively into our often water repellent local soils. Liquid feeding with Seasol, will help encourage the lush green growth which makes tropical gardens so appealing.

Essential Plants for Tropical Gardens:

Crinum: Spider Lily. Evergreen, robust perennial with bold strappy leaves. Forms a large upright, rosette of foliage. Greenish-white, fragrant star shaped flowers in summer. 60cm-1m H X 1m W.

Cycad: (*Cycas revoluta*) Slow growing, palm-like foliage, with small spine tipped leaflets. Excellent container specimen.

Dracaena: Evergreen shrubs to small trees. Rosettes of narrow strap shaped foliage held on bare branches. Develop very sculptured forms. 1.5-3m H X 2-3m W.

Red Sensation: Stunning Cordyline with rich red strap-like foliage. Creates an instant feature in the garden. Hardy and easy to grow. 2.5m H X 1-1.5m W.

Palms:

Golden Cane Palm: Clump forming Palm with golden tinged trunks. 3-6m H X 2-3m W.

Kentia Palm: Beautiful single trunked palm with large feather-like fronds. 6-10m H X 3-4m W.

Majestic Palm: Large rounded Palm with long fronds of attractive foliage. 8-15m H.

Trees:

Frangipanni: Deciduous large shrub to tree. Fragrant flowers in summer-autumn. Range of colours available. 3-6m H X 3-5m W

Magnolia Little Gem: Evergreen tree with large creamy white, perfumed flowers in Spring and Summer. 4-5m H X 2-2.5m W.

Tropical Foliage Plants:

Ardisia: Evergreen small shrub. Glossy foliage. Small white flowers in summer followed by red ornamental berries. 0.5-1m H X 0.5-1m W.

Cordyline: Colourful foliage shrubs. Variety of leaf colours available. 1.5-2m X 0.5-1m W.

Iresine: Quick growing perennial with colourful red foliage. 0.5-1m H X 0.5-1m W.

Oyster Plant: (*Acanthus*) Clump forming perennial with large deeply cut foliage. Tall spikes of mauve and white flowers in summer. 0.5-1m H x 1m W.

Rhoeo: Moses in The Cradle. Low growing, clump forming perennial. Contrasting foliage is green above and purple below. 10-30cm H X 30-45cm W.

Variegated Ginger: Clump forming ornamental Ginger with green and gold variegated foliage. White flowers in summer. 1-2m H X 1m W

Xanadu: Very hardy and attractive clump forming Philodendron. Leaves are deeply lobed. A reliable plant and a great filler for your planting plan. 50- 90 cm H X 50-1m W

Yellow wave Flax: Green and gold variegated form of New Zealand Flax. A real eye-catcher! 0.60- 1m H X 0.5m W.

Essential Tropical Features: Asian Style statues will help bring an air of mystery to your tropical garden.



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