# Dynamite Firecracker Plant

***Cuphea ignea 'Dynamite'***



*Dynamite Firecracker Plant in bloom*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

Height: 10 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 10 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 9b

Other Names: Mexican Cigar Plant, Cigar Flower

**Description:**

Small, mounded and trailing shrub or subshrub producing vivid red-orange tubular flowers with purple throats and white tips; flowers year round in warmer climates; a great garden accent or container plant

**Ornamental Features**

Dynamite Firecracker Plant has red tubular flowers with orange overtones, purple throats and white tips along the branches from mid spring to late summer, which are interesting on close inspection. It has green evergreen foliage. The pointy leaves remain green throughout the winter.

**Landscape Attributes**

Dynamite Firecracker Plant is an open multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees, butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Dynamite Firecracker Plant is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

## Planting & Growing

Dynamite Firecracker Plant will grow to be about 10 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 10 inches apart. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider covering it with a thick layer of mulch in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Dynamite Firecracker Plant makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the larger thriller plants stand out. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.