Lobster Claw

Heliconia schiedeana



Lobster Claw flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 8 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 10a

Other Names: Parrot Beak, Hardy Lobster Claw

Description:

A beautiful large accent piece ideal for indoor containers and patios; featuring large, deep green oblong leaves that give way to stunning blooms with red bracts and yellow flowers, resembling lobster claws; lovely addition to flower arrangements

Features & Attributes

Lobster Claw features showy spikes of yellow flowers with red bracts rising above the foliage from late spring to late summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its large oval leaves remain dark green in color throughout the year.

This is an herbaceous evergreen houseplant with an upright spreading habit of growth. This plant should not require much pruning, except when necessary to keep it looking its best.

Planting & Growing

When grown indoors, Lobster Claw can be expected to grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. This houseplant will do well in a location that gets either direct or indirect sunlight, although it will usually require a more brightly-lit environment than what artificial indoor lighting alone can provide. It does best in average to evenly moist soil, but will not tolerate standing water. The surface of the soil shouldn't be allowed to dry out completely, and so you should expect to water this plant once and possibly even twice each week. Be aware that your particular watering schedule may vary depending on its location in the room, the pot size, plant size and other conditions; if in doubt, ask one of our experts in the store for advice. It is not particular as to soil type or pH; an average potting soil should work just fine.

There are many factors that will affect the ultimate height, spread and overall performance of a plant when grown indoors; among them, the size of the pot it's growing in, the amount of light it receives, watering frequency, the pruning regimen and repotting schedule. Use the information described here as a guideline only; individual performance can and will vary. Please contact the store to speak with one of our experts if you are interested in further details concerning recommendations on pot size, watering, pruning, repotting, etc.