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Gardening in Containers Using Tropical Plants



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Gardening in Containers Using Tropical Plants

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Container gardening has enjoyed an increased popularity in the last decade. With increased urbanization, container gardens have come to the rescue to brighten up patios and balconies. A great many plants have been used in container gardens — from herbaceous annuals, bulbs, succulents and perennials to woody Japanese maples and conifers.

Tender Perennials and Tropical Plants

Particularly in the South, high heat and humidity often combined with drought, present a serious challenge to ornamental gardening. This can be especially true for container gardens, where plant roots have limited soil space to access water and nutrients. Large day-to-day fluctuations in soil moisture and nutrients occur in the enclosed container space. Optimal growth and flowering can be adversely affected. Select plants carefully, with consideration as to whether the plants can not only withstand these conditions but perform satisfactorily under them. In addition, it is a good idea

to include plants with significant foliar interest, to supplement flowering materials that may not be at their best throughout the season.

Many plants considered tender perennials and tropicals hold up very well in the challenging conditions and can tolerate extremes of heat, humidity, and moisture. Some are uniquely adapted to low-light environments and can be used in containers suited for shaded areas. These plants are traditionally used as interiorscape plants, but they have shown much potential for outdoor use in the summer as well. Others can tolerate or even thrive in full sun.

Because most interiorscape plants are selected for their attractive foliage, the mixed garden will permanently exhibit interest.

This publication is intended to provide information on successful gardening in containers using tropical plant materials.

Essentials of Container Gardening

Selecting Containers

Because of the great variety of options, choosing containers can be challenging but enjoyable! The price range can be wide, especially for large, terracotta glazed containers, which usually are most expensive. Many people choose plastic containers, which are less expensive. These can be just as attractive as heavy clay pots and not as liable to breakage. You can select moss or coco fiber baskets or plastic baskets. Both work equally well as far as plant performance is concerned.

The style and shape of the container should complement the plants grown. The style and shape also should complement other containers for best display. The size of the container will limit the size of the plant. A wide range of materials is available — plastics, fiberglass, terracotta, stone and wood.

Make sure that used containers are clean. Wash out any old compost, chemical or paint residues. To help



Figure 1. Colorful combination gardens made up exclusively of tropical foliage plants. The container on the left features high-light adapted plants and can be used on patios, sun decks, around pools, etc. The container on the right uses plants best adapted for low-light environments.



Figure 2. Containers.

prolong the life of wooden containers, line them with plastic. The type of plants will determine the growing conditions you will need to create.

Unless you are creating a bog garden, the container must have drainage holes. If not, the compost will become saturated and stagnant, killing the plants. A 3- to 5-gallon container should have at least four drainage holes. Containers made of molded foam usually do not come with pre-drilled holes, so you must add them. There's usually a reminder from the manufacturer so you won't forget.

Here are a few things to keep in mind when selecting baskets. Moss lining looks natural and allows easy planting through the base and sides of the basket. You can use a black plastic (polyethylene) liner inside the

moss liner if holes are pierced through. This helps hold moisture while retaining a "natural" effect. Coconut-fiber matting liners are a woolly-textured, natural-looking fiber that lasts several seasons.

Biodegradable liners are made from compressed fibers, and will last for 2 years or more. Holes need to be made in sides and base for trailing plants. Plastic, when used alone with pierced holes, is an effective container but it only looks good if plants grow over to camouflage the container.

Soils for containers need to have three key elements: (1) drainage, (2) aeration and (3) water retention. If you use moss, coco fiber baskets or any container that allows high evaporation, consider adding a water-retaining agent to the soil mix. Mix a moisture-retaining agent in the medium (follow manufacturer's recommendation for mixing rates) or purchase a soil-less medium premixed with a moisture retaining agent.

Designing with Plants

When planning a container garden, you should follow some basic design principles.

The first design principle is **focus**. You need to draw the eye toward the center of the container and let the other plants complement and "flow" around this center. In Figure 3, the visually strong Begonia foliage serves that purpose.



Figure 3.



Figure 4.



Figure 5.

The second design principle is **balance**. This may be accomplished using symmetrical or asymmetrical design. In symmetrical designs, there is an equal amount of plant material on all sides. In the container shown in Figure 3, the vertical begonia pulls the eye to the top right, while the trailing ivy draws the eye to the bottom left creating an asymmetrical effect. In either case balanced design is achieved.

Form is the third design principle. Each plant in the design has a growth habit, or form. Some plants have a strong upright habit. Others have a sprawling habit, while a third type grows as a mound. Each of these habits can contribute to the overall aesthetic quality of the container garden if used in the right place. In the example in Figure 4, the Elephant ear (*Alocasia*) gives the design height, the Coleus and New Guinea Impatiens show a mounded habit, and the Ivy drapes over the container's edge.

A fourth design principle is **texture**. Various plants have different textured foliage. Some have linear leaves, like grasses, *Dracaena* or *Cordylina*. Others have rounded leaves, like the Elephant ear, Begonia, *Philodendron* and Coleus. A good design will use a variety of textures to make "a feast for the eye."

A fifth design principle is **rhythm**. Rhythm is achieved by planting the same or similar-looking plants at repeated intervals. When the eye travels around the container, the viewer gets a sense of a rhythmic movement.

A sixth design principle is **proportion**. To keep plants and container in proportion and achieve a balanced appearance, the height of the plants should not exceed three times the height of the container. For shallow or small containers, choose plants that will not get too large and/or choose plants with small-sized foliage. For large or tall containers, choose medium to large plants and/or plants with large leaves.

Working with Shape, Texture, and Color

Along with the tropical foliage plants, you can use flowering annuals such as Vinca, Wax Begonia, Ivy Geranium, Bacopa, Calibrachoa, Torenia, New Guinea Impatiens, regular Impatiens, Verbena, Portulaca and Lantana.

Caladium cultivars are available in a great variety of foliage colors, shapes and sizes. They can also help "echo" the color of flowers in the container.

Tropical plants boast a wonderful variety of foliage textures and colors. Mix plants with at least three textures of foliage to make a container garden interesting (Figure 9, page 6).



Figure 6.



Figure 7.

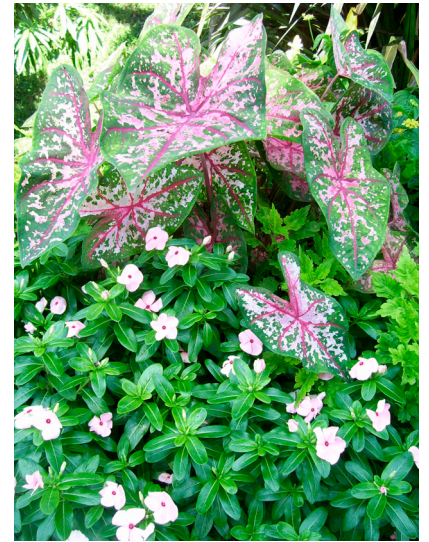


Figure 8.

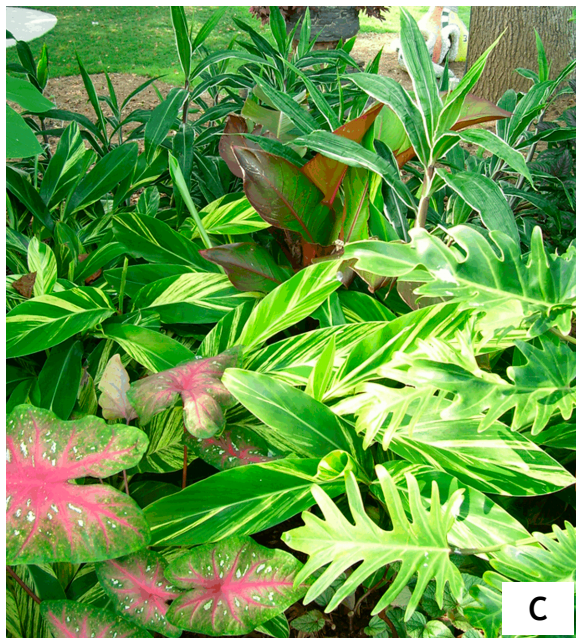


Figure 9.

- A. Ginger, Calathea, Caladium, Fern
- B. Dracaena, Asparagus, Hypoestes, Peperomia
- C. Alpinia, Setaria, Canna, Philodendron, Caladium

Some good foliage contrasts include downy with glossy, small with large, and yellow or lime-green with purple. Some of those in Figure 10: the glossy Begonia ‘Dragon Wing’ against the matte leaves of Setcreasea and the chartreuse of Ipomoea ‘Marguerite’ with the purple of Setcreasea.

Plant Positions in the Container

Figure 11 shows an arrangement of plants.

Center plants provide compact, upright growth to fill in the crown of the container. Examples are Elephant Ears (Alocasia, Colocasia), Dracaena, Cordyline, palms.

Filler plants typically have compact, upright growth and round out the top of the container. Examples are Cuphea, Coffee, Ctenanthe, gingers, Graptopetalum.

Corner plants grow well over the container’s edge and benefit from a corner position where they have maximum elbowroom. Examples are: Begonia, Alternanthera, bromeliads, Fittonia, Pilea, Peperomia.

Edge plants drape over the side, softening the look of the container and filling out the space between its corners. Examples are Ivy, String of pearls, Hoya, Tradescantia, Selaginella.

Refer to Table 1 for a list of plants, their characteristics and intended use in a container garden.

In a successful container garden all plants combined in one container must have similar water, light and fertilizer requirements.

Where to Place Containers

When choosing a location for your container garden, avoid exposed windy sites. (Figure 12) Plants in windy locations use a large amount of water in order to survive. Windy, hot, conditions may require watering every few hours, especially if the plants are large, and/or the container is small.

For locations that receive 4-12 hours of sun a day, select full sun to part shade plants. For locations that receive 2-4 hours of sun daily, select plants for part or full shade. Many tropical plants have flexible light requirements and will grow well in shade, although flowering may be reduced. If using shade requiring plants listed in Table 1, you may include them in the side of the container that will not be exposed to direct sun. This way they will not burn, yet they will receive ample light for good growth.

Fertilizing Tropical Plants in Containers

For best results with tropical plants, regular fertilization should be done with a combination of liquid feed and a slow-release fertilizer. You can apply slow-release fertilizer at planting, mixed in the soil or top-dress, or use a soilless mix with slow-release fertilizer incorporated in. Depending on the duration of the slow-release fertilizer formulation, you may have to make several applications. Follow label directions when applying fertilizers.

Theme Gardens

You may also create a theme garden, such as a fern garden (Figure 13), or a succulent garden (Figure 14). Theme gardens usually combine plant species that are either closely related, such as ferns, or belong to a category, such as cacti and succulents. Since the plants included in a theme usually have similar light, moisture, and nutrient requirements, these gardens are easy to care for.

Plant Maintenance

Nothing lasts forever! Container gardens need to be gardened. (Figure 15)

Most plants benefit from pinching, which is the removal of young tissue located at the tips. This encourages branching and fuller growth. Later in the



Figure 10.



Figure 11.



Figure 12.



Figure 13.



Figure 14.



Figure 15.

season, trimming may be needed in order to rejuvenate the plant.

Spraying for pests and diseases may be needed; usually insecticidal soap and/or insecticidal oil are sufficient in holding the pests in check.

Remove weeds by hand.

Container Recipes

The following container gardens were created and maintained at the Research and Education Garden at the University of Georgia Campus in Griffin, Georgia. The containers used were 36-inch or larger in diameter, made of foam or plastic. They were planted in late April or early May in bark-based commercial mix, supplemented with a slow-release fertilizer and a water-retention agent.

Combinations for Sun/Part Shade

Costus 'Variegatus'
Alocasia
Cordyline 'Purple Knight'
Clerodendron ugandense
Hedychium



Clerodendron ugandense
Cordyline 'Rubra'
Iresine 'Curly'
Acalypha wilkesiana
Anthurium crystallinum
Caladium 'Red Ruffles'
Syngonium 'Christmas'



Alocasia sinuata
Anthericum saundersiae
'St. Bernard's Lily'
Philodendron gloriosum
Syngonium 'Willimsii'
Micania
Caladium 'Brandywine'



Colocasia 'Purple Stem'
Cordyline 'Red Star'
Iresine 'Curly'
Talinum 'Jewels of Opar'
Begonia 'Benitochiba'



Canna 'Purpurea'
Begonia 'Benitochiba'
Euphorbia 'Burrows Silver'
Rhoeo bermudensis
Iresine formosa



Combinations for Shade

Caladium 'Pink Symphony'
Philodendron gloriosum
Syngonium 'Confetti'
Ficus benjamina
Begonia 'Black Beauty'



Alocasia 'Excalibur'
Syngonium 'Neon'
Setcreasea
Philodendron
'Prince of Orange'
Iresine 'Curly'
Ludisia discolor
Begonia
'Cherries & Chocolates'



Philodendron gloriosum
Anthurium crystallinum
Zinziber 'Midnight'
Xanthosoma 'Magnificum'
Polypodium



Table 1. Selected commonly marketed tropical plants, their cultural requirements, and recommended use in containers.

Abbreviations: S = full sun, PS = part shade, SH = shade;

CE = Center plants fill in the crown of the container, F = filler plants round out the top of the container, CO = corner plants are planted over the container's edge, E = edge plants drape over the side of the container.

Botanical Name	Common Name	Light Level	Container Use
<i>Acalypha hispida</i>	Chenille Plant	S/PS	CE/F
<i>Acalypha wilkesiana</i>	Copper-Leaf Plant	S/PS	CE/F
<i>Achimenes</i> spp.	Magic Flower	PS/SH	CO/E
<i>Adiantum radianum</i>	Maidenhair Fern	SH	F/CO
<i>Aechmea fasciata</i>	Silver Vase	PS/SH	F/CO
<i>Aeschynanthus marmoratus</i>	Zebra Basket Vine	PS/SH	F/CO/E
<i>Aeschynanthus pulcher</i>	Lipstick Vine	PS/SH	CO/E
<i>Agave americana</i>	Variegated Century Plant	S	CE/F
<i>Agave victoriae-reginae</i>	Queen Agave	S	CE/F
<i>Aglaonema</i> spp.	Aglaonema	SH	F/CO
<i>Allamanda cathartica</i>	Allamanda	S	F/CO
<i>Alloplectus nummularia</i>	Miniature Pouch Flower	S	F/CO
<i>Allocasia</i> spp.	Elephant Ear	S/PS	CE/F
<i>Aloe aborescens</i>	Candelabra Plant	S	CE/F
<i>Aloe barbadensis</i>	Medicine Plant	S	CE/F
<i>Alpinia sanderae</i>	Variegated Ginger	S/PS/SH	CE/F
<i>Alpinia zerumbet</i> 'Variegata'	Yellow Shell Ginger	S/PS/SH	CE/F
<i>Alternanthera</i> cvs.	Alternanthera	S/PS	CE/F/CO
<i>Amomum cardamom</i>	Cardamon Ginger	PS/SH	CE/F
<i>Amorphophallus bulbifer</i>	Amorphophallus	SH	CE/F
<i>Ananas</i> 'Striatus'	Variegated Pineapple	S	CE/F
<i>Anthurium clarinervium</i>	Dwarf Crystal Anthurium	SH	F/CO
<i>Anthurium hookeri</i>	Bird's Nest Anthurium	SH	F/CO
<i>Anthurium scherzeranum</i>	Flamingo Flower	SH	F/CO
<i>Aphelandra squarrosa</i>	Zebra Plant	SH	F/CO
<i>Asparagus densiflorus</i> 'Myers'	Plume Asparagus	S/PS	F/CO
<i>Asparagus densiflorus</i> 'Sprengeri'	Foxtail Fern	S/PS	CE/F
<i>Aspidistra elatior</i>	Cast Iron Plant	SH	CE/F
<i>Asplenium nidus</i>	Bird's Nest Fern	SH	CE/F
<i>Barleria repens</i>	Coral Creeper	S	CO
<i>Beaucarnea recurvata</i>	Ponytail	S	CE/F
<i>Begonia</i> spp. Cane-stemmed (<i>B. sceptrum</i>) Shrub-like (<i>B. metallica</i>) Rex-cultorum (<i>B. x rex-cultorum</i>) Rhizomatous (<i>B. masoniana</i>)	Begonia Holly-Leaf Begonia Metallic-Leaf Begonia Rex Begonia Iron-Cross Begonia	PS/SH PS/SH PS/SH PS/SH	CE CE/F F/CO F/CO

Botanical Name	Common Name	Light Level	Container Use
<i>Billbergia nutans</i>	Queen's Tears	SH	CE/F
<i>Billbergia zebrina</i>	Zebra Plant	SH	CE
<i>Bougainvillea</i> spp.	Bougainvillea	S	F/CO
<i>Brassaia actinophylla</i>	Schefflera	S/SH	CE/F
<i>Brassaia arboricola</i>	Dwarf Schefflera	S/SH	CE/F
<i>Breynia roseo-picta</i>	Leaf Flower	S	CE/F
<i>Caladium</i> cvs.	Caladium	SH	F/CO
<i>Calathea insignis</i>	Rattlesnake Plant	SH	CE/F/CO
<i>Calathea makoyana</i>	Peacock Plant	SH	F/CO
<i>Calathea zebrina</i>	Zebra Plant	SH	CE/F/CO
<i>Callisia repens</i> 'Turtle Vine'	Turtle Vine	S/PS	CO/E
<i>Canna</i> cvs.	Canna	S	CE
<i>Caryota mitis</i>	Fishtail Palm	S/SH	CE
<i>Ceropegia woodii</i>	Rosary Vine	S	E
<i>Chamaedorea elegans</i>	Parlor Palm	S/SH	CE
<i>Chamaedorea erumpens</i>	Bamboo Palm	S/SH	CE
<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	European Fan Palm	S/SH	CE
<i>Chlorophytum comosum</i>	Spider Plant	SH	CO
<i>Chlorophytum amaniense</i>	Fireflash	SH	F/CO
<i>Chrysalidocarpus lutescens</i>	Areca Palm	S/SH	CE
<i>Christia obcordata</i>	Butterfly Plant	S/PS	CO
<i>Christia subbocordata</i>	Iron Butterfly Plant	S/PS	CO
<i>Cissus antarctica</i>	Kangaroo Vine	PS/SH	E
<i>Cissus rhombifolia</i>	Grape Leaf Ivy	PS/SH	E
<i>Cissus rotundifolia</i>	Wax Cissus	PS/H	E
<i>Clerodendron</i> spp.	Glory Bower	S/PS	CE/F/CO
<i>Codiaeum variegatum</i>	Croton	S/PS	CE/F
<i>Coffea arabica</i>	Coffee	S/PS	CE/F
<i>Colocasia</i> spp.	Elephant Ear	S/PS	CE/F
<i>Columnea hybrids</i>	Goldfish Plant	PS/SH	E
<i>Cordyline terminalis</i>	Ti Plant	S/PS	CE/F
<i>Costus</i> spp.	Spiral Ginger	PS/SH	CE/F
<i>Crassula arborescens</i>	Silver Jade Plant	S	CO
<i>Crassula ovata</i>	Jade Plant	S	CO
<i>Crassula teres</i>	Rattlesnake Tail	S	CO
<i>Crossandra infundibuliformis</i>	Crossandra	S/PS	F/CO
<i>Cryptanthus tricolor</i>	Stiff Pheasant Leaf	PS	CO
<i>Cryptanthus zonatus zebrinus</i>	Zebra Plant	PS	CO
<i>Ctenanthe oppenheimiana</i> 'Tricolor'	Never-Never Plant	SH	CE/F
<i>Cuphea cyanea</i>	Red Cuphea	S	F/CO
<i>Cuphea hyssopifolia</i>	False Heather	S	CO

Botanical Name	Common Name	Light Level	Container Use
<i>Cuphea ignea</i>	Cigar Flower	S	CE
<i>Cuphea x purpurea</i>	Firefly	S	CE/F
<i>Curculigo purpurea</i> ‘Purple Prince’	Purple Prince	SH	CE
<i>Curcuma</i> spp.	Ginger	S/PS/SH	CE
<i>Cyanotis kewensis</i>	Teddy Bear Plant	S/PS	CO/E
<i>Cyanotis somalensis</i>	Pussy Ears	S/PS	CO/E
<i>Cyclanthus bipartitus</i>	Panama Hat Plant	SH	CE/F
<i>Cyrtomium falcatum</i>	Holly Fern	SH	F/CO
<i>Cyrtosperma johnstonii</i>	Cyrtosperma	SH	CE/F
<i>Cyathula prostrata</i>	Hookweed	S	CO
<i>Davallia fejeensis</i>	Rabbit’s Foot Fern	SH	CO
<i>Dieffenbachia</i> cvs.	Exotica Perfection	SH	CE/F
<i>Dichondra repens</i> ‘Silver Falls’	Silver Falls Dichondra	S/PS	E
<i>Dichorisandra reginae</i>	Queen’s Spiderwort	PS/SH	CO
<i>Dicliptera suberecta</i>	Flame Bush	S	CO
<i>Dioscorea discolor</i> ‘Burgundy & Silver’	Ornamental Yam	S	CO/E
<i>Dischidia</i> spp.	Urn Vine	PS/SH	E
<i>Dizygotheca elegantissima</i>	False Aralia	PS/SH	CE/F
<i>Dracaena deremensis</i> ‘Janet Craig’	Janet Craig	PS/SH	CE/CO
<i>Dracaena deremensis</i> ‘Warneckii’	Warneckii	PS/SH	CE
<i>Dracaena fragrans</i> ‘Massangeana’	Corn Plant	PS/SH	CE
<i>Dracaena goldieana</i>	Queen of Dracaenas	PS/SH	CO
<i>Dracaena marginata</i>	Marginata	PS/SH	CE
<i>Dracaena sanderiana</i>	Ribbon Plant	SH	CE
<i>Dracaena surculosa</i>	Gold Dust Dracaena	SH	F/CO
<i>Dyckia brevifolia</i>	Miniature Agave	S	F/CO
<i>Echeveria elegans</i>	Mexican Snowball	S	CO
<i>Epiphyllum</i> hybrids	Orchid Cacti	SH	F/CO
<i>Epipremnum aureum</i>	Golden Pothos	SH	E
<i>Episcia cupreata</i>	Flame Violet	SH	CO/E
<i>Episcia reptans</i>	Scarlet Violet	SH	E
<i>Euphorbia milii splendens</i>	Crown-of-Thorns	S/PS	CE/F
<i>Fatshedera lizei</i>	Botanical Wonder Plant	S/SH	CE/F
<i>Fatsia japonica</i>	Japanese Aralia	S/SH	CE/F
<i>Ficus benjamina</i>	Weeping Fig	S/SH	CE/F/CO
<i>Ficus deltoidea</i>	Mistletoe Ficus	S/SH	CE/F/CO
<i>Ficus elastica</i> ‘Decora’	Rubber Plant	S/SH	CE/F
<i>Ficus lyrata</i>	Fiddle-Leaf Fig	S/SH	CE/F
<i>Ficus parcellii</i>	Clown Fig	S/SH	F/CE
<i>Ficus pumila</i>	Creeping Fig	S/SH	E
<i>Ficus retusa</i>	Cuban Laurel	S/SH	CE/F/CO

Botanical Name	Common Name	Light Level	Container Use
<i>Fittonia versaffeltii</i>	Fittonia	SH	E
<i>Gasteria hybrida</i>	Ox Tongue	S	CO
<i>Geogenanthus undatus</i>	Seersucker Plant	SH	CO
<i>Globba</i> spp.	Globba Ginger	S/SH	CE/F/CO
<i>Graptopetalum amethystinum</i>	Jewel-Leaf Plant	SH	CO
<i>Graptophyllum pictum</i>	Caricature Plant	S/PS/SH	CE/F
<i>Guzmania monostachia</i>	Striped Torch	SH	CO
<i>Gynura aurantiaca</i>	Purple Passion	S	F/CO
<i>Haemaria discolor</i>	Golden Lace Orchid	SH	CO
<i>Hamelia patens</i>	Texas Firebush	S	CE/F
<i>Haworthia fasciata</i>	Zebra Haworthia	S	CO
<i>Hedera canariensis</i>	Algerian Ivy	S/SH	E
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English Ivy	S/SH	E
<i>Hedychium</i> spp.	Butterfly Ginger	S	CE
<i>Heliconia</i> spp.	Lobster Claw	PS/SH	CE
<i>Hemigraphis alternata</i>	Waffle Plant	S/SH	CO/E
<i>Hemigraphis repanda</i>	Purple Waffle Plant	S/SH	CO/E
<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>	Chinese hibiscus	S	CE/F
<i>Hoffmania</i> spp.	Taffeta Plant	SH	CO
<i>Homalomena wallisii</i>	Silver Shield	SH	CO
<i>Howea forsterana</i>	Kentia Palm	S/SH	CE/F
<i>Hoya carnosa</i>	Wax Plant	PS/SH	E
<i>Iresine herbstii</i>	Chicken Gizzard	S/PS	F/CO
<i>Ixora coccinea</i>	Ixora	S/PS	F/CO
<i>Jatropha integerrima</i>	Peregrian	S	CE/F
<i>Justicia brandegeana</i>	Shrimp Plant	S	F/CO
<i>Kaempferia</i> spp.	Peacock Lily	SH	F/CO
<i>Kalanchoe blossfeldiana</i>	Christmas Kalanchoe	S	CO
<i>Kalanchoe diagremontiana</i>	Mexican Hat Plant	S	CE/F
<i>Kalanchoe pumila</i>	Dwarf Purple Kalanchoe	S	E
<i>Kalanchoe tomentosa</i>	Panda Plant	S	CO
<i>Ledebouria socialis</i>	Silver Squill	PS/SH	CO
<i>Ludisia discolor</i>	Jewel Orchid	SH	CO
<i>Macodes petola</i>	Gold-Net Orchid	SH	CO
<i>Manettia inflata</i>	Firecracker Plant	S	CO
<i>Mandevilla</i> cvs.	Mandevilla	S	F/CO
<i>Maranta leuconeura erythroneura</i>	Red Nerve Plant	SH	CO
<i>Maranta leuconeura kerchoviana</i>	Prayer Plant	SH	CO
<i>Miconia magnifica</i>	Velvet Tree	SH	F/CE
<i>Mikania ternata</i>	Plush Vine	PS/SH	E
<i>Monstera deliciosa</i>	Philodendron Pertusum	SH	F/CO

Botanical Name	Common Name	Light Level	Container Use
<i>Monstera obliqua</i>	Swiss Cheese	SH	F/CO/E
<i>Musa cvs.</i>	Ornamental Banana	S/PS	CE
<i>Nautilocalyx lynchii</i>	Black Alloplectus	PS/SH	CO
<i>Neoregelia carolinae</i> 'Tricolor'	Tricolor Bromeliad	SH	CO
<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Tricolor'	Tricolor Bromeliad	SH	CO
<i>Nephrolepis exaltata</i> 'Bostoniensis'	Boston Fern	PS/SH	F/CO
<i>Nephrolepis exaltata</i> 'Fluffy Ruffles'	Fluffy Ruffles	PS/SH	F/CO
<i>Nidularium innocentii nana</i>	Miniature Bird's Nest	SH	F/CO
<i>Opuntia vilis</i>	Little Tree Cactus	S	F/CO
<i>Opuntia vulgaris</i>	Irish Mittens	S	F/CO
<i>Oxalis flava</i>	Finger Oxalis	SH/PS	CO
<i>Oxalis rubra</i>	Red Oxalis	SH/PS	CO
<i>Pachystachys lutea</i>	Yellow Shrimp Plant	S	F/CO
<i>Pandanus veithcii</i>	Variegated Screw-Pine	S	CE/F
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> hybrids	Ladyslipper Orchids	SH	F
<i>Pedilanthus tithymaloides</i> 'Variegatus'	Devil's Backbone	S/PS	CE/F
<i>Pellaea rotundifolia</i>	Button Fern	SH	F/CO
<i>Pellionia pulchra</i>	Satin Pellionia	SH	CO/E
<i>Peperomia caperata</i>	Emerald Ripple	SH	CO
<i>Peperomia clusiifolia</i>	Red-Edge Peperomia	SH	CO
<i>Peperomia marmorata</i>	Sweetheart Peperomia	SH	CO
<i>Peperomia obtusifolia</i>	Baby Rubber Tree	SH	CO
<i>Peristrophe aureo-variegata</i>	Marble Leaf	SH	CO
<i>Philodendron bipennifolium</i>	Fiddle-Leaf Philodendron	SH	CE/F
<i>Philodendron melanochrysum</i>	Velour Philodendron	SH	E
<i>Philodendron</i> 'Emerald Queen'	Emerald Queen Philodendron	SH	F/CO
<i>Philodendron</i> 'Florida'	Florida Philodendron	SH	F/CO
<i>Philodendron gloriosum</i>	Satin-Leaf Philodendron	SH	CO/E
<i>Philodendron scandens oxycardium</i>	Heart-Leaf Philodendron	SH	E
<i>Philodendron selloum</i>	Tree Philodendron	SH	CE/F/CO
<i>Philodendron verrucosum</i>	Velvet-Leaf Philodendron	SH	CO/E
<i>Phoenix roebelenii</i>	Pigmy Date Palm	S	CE/F
<i>Phormium cvs.</i>	New Zealand Flax	S	CE
<i>Pilea cadierei</i>	Aluminum Plant	SH	CO/E
<i>Pilea involucrata</i>	Friendship Plant	SH	F/CO
<i>Pilea microphylla</i>	Artillery Plant	S/SH	F/CO
<i>Platynerium bifurcatum</i>	Staghorn Fern	SH	F/CO
<i>Plectranthus australis</i>	Swedish Ivy	S/SH	CO/E
<i>Plectranthus oertendahlii</i>	Candle Plant	S/SH	E
<i>Pleomele reflexa variegata</i>	Song of India	S/SH	CE/F
<i>Plumaria cvs.</i>	Frangipani	S	CE/F

Botanical Name	Common Name	Light Level	Container Use
<i>Podocarpus macrophyllus</i>	Podocarpus	S/SH	CE
<i>Polyscias balfouriana</i>	Balfour Aralia	S/SH	CE/F
<i>Polyscias fruticosa</i>	Ming Aralia	S/SH	CE/F
<i>Porphyrocoma pohliana</i>	Brazilian Fireworks	S	CO
<i>Pseudoranthemum alatum</i>	Chocolate Plant	S/PS	CE/F
<i>Pseudoranthemum atropurpureum</i> 'Variegatum'	Tricolor	S/PS	CE/F
<i>Pteris ensiformis</i> 'Victoriae'	Victorian Table Fern	SH	CO
<i>Rhapis excelsa</i>	Lady Palm	S/SH	CE
<i>Rhipsalis baccifera</i>	Mistletoe Cactus	S	E
<i>Rhipsalis cereuscula</i>	Coral Cactus	S	CO/E
<i>Rhoeo bermudensis</i>	Variegated Spiderwort	PS/SH	CO
<i>Rhoeo spathacea</i>	Purple-Leaved Spiderwort	PS/SH	CO
<i>Rodospatha</i> spp.	Pickrel Weed	SH	CO
<i>Ruellia devosiana</i>	Red-Spray Ruellia	S/PS	F/CO
<i>Ruellia macoyana</i>	Trailing Velvet Plant	PS/SH	E
<i>Ruellia equisetiformis</i>	Coral Fountain Plant	S	CO
<i>Saintpaulia</i> hybrids	African Violets	SH	CO
<i>Sanchezia speciosa</i>	Sanchezia	S/PS	F/CO
<i>Sansevieria trifasciata</i> 'Hahnii'	Bird's Nest Sansevieria	S/SH	CO
<i>Sansevieria trifasciata</i> 'Laurentii'	Gold-Banded Sansevieria	S/SH	CE
<i>Saxifraga stolonifera</i>	Strawberry Geranium	PS/SH	E
<i>Schlumbergera</i> spp.	Christmas/Easter Cactus	S	CO/E
<i>Scindapsus aureus</i>	Golden Pothos	SH	E
<i>Scindapsus pictus</i>	Silver Pothos	SH	E
<i>Scindapsus pictus argyreus</i>	Satin Pothos	SH	E
<i>Sedum morganianum</i>	Burro's Tail	S	E
<i>Sedum sieboldii</i>	October Daphne	S	CO/E
<i>Sedum spectabile</i>	Showy Sedum	S	CO
<i>Selaginella kraussiana</i>	Trailing Spikemoss	SH	E
<i>Selaginella willdenovii</i>	Peacock Fern	SH	E
<i>Sempervivum</i> spp.	Houseleek	S	CO
<i>Setaria palmifolia</i>	Palm Grass	S/PS	F
<i>Setcreasea pallida</i> 'Purple Heart'	Purple Heart	S/PS	CO
<i>Sideras fuscata</i>	Brown Spiderwort	PS/SH	CO/E
<i>Sinningia speciosa</i>	Gloxinia	SH	CO
<i>Soleirolia soleirolii</i>	Baby Tears	S/SH	CO
<i>Spathiphyllum</i> cvs.	Peace Lily	SH	F/CO
<i>Stapelia nobilis</i>	Carrion Flower	S	CO
<i>Stephanotis floribunda</i>	Madagascar Jasmine	S	CO/E
<i>Strelitzia</i> spp.	Bird of Paradise	S	CE
<i>Streptocarpus x hybridus</i>	Cape Primrose	S/PS	CO

Botanical Name	Common Name	Light Level	Container Use
<i>Strobilanthes dyerianum</i>	Persian Shield	S/PS	F/CO
<i>Stromanthe</i> spp.	Stromanthe	SH	CE/F
<i>Syngonium podophyllum</i>	Nepthytis	SH	CO/E
<i>Tacca integrifolia</i>	Bat Flower	SH	F/CO
<i>Tecoma stans</i>	Trumpet Bush	S	F
<i>Tecomaria capensis</i>	Cape Honeysuckle	S	F
<i>Tetrapanax papyrifer</i>	Rice-Paper Plant	S	CE/F
<i>Tibouchina urvilleana</i>	Brazilian Spider Flower	S	CE/F
<i>Tibouchina grandiflora</i>	Glory Bush	S	CE/F/CO
<i>Tillandsia lendenii</i>	Blue-Flowered Torch	SH	CO
<i>Tolmiea menziesii</i>	Piggyback Plant	PS/SH	CO/E
<i>Tradescantia blossfeldiana</i>	Flowering Inch Plant	PS/SH	CO/E
<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>	Wandering Jew	PS/SH	CO/E
<i>Tradescantia sillamontana</i>	White Velvet	PS/SH	CO/E
<i>Tradescantia zebrina</i>	Wandering Jew	PS/SH	CO/E
<i>Vriesea fenestralis</i>	Netted Vriesea	SH	CO
<i>Vriesea splendens</i>	Flaming Sword	SH	CO
<i>Xanthosoma</i> spp.	Yautia	SH	CE/F
<i>Yucca elephantipes</i>	Spineless Yucca	S	CE/F
<i>Zamia furfuracea</i>	Zamia	S	F
<i>Zamioculcas zamiifolia</i>	ZZ Plant	SH	CE/F
<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>	Calla Lily	S	CE/F
<i>Zantedeschia eliotiana</i>	Golden Calla	S	CE/F



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J. Scott Angle, Dean and Director