

Flaming Katy

While most succulents are grown for their remarkable foliage, thickened stems or spectacular thorns, this succulent attracts attention with its brightly coloured flowers. Native to Madagascar, Flaming Katies grow a compact, round shape to about 40 cm high. Their fleshy, deep-green leaves are round or oval with scalloped edges. Clusters of small tubular flowers show up in the colours white, yellow, orange, red, pink or purple. They appear in winter for weeks. The Flaming Katy may grow as a tough indoor plant or as a highly ornamental bedding plant. The soil should be well drained. The most frequent problems for pot-grown Kalanchoes are overwatering and applying cold water that shocks the roots. During dry periods with insufficient watering, the leaves begin to turn yellow and shrivel up before they are dropped. This starts from the bottom progressing upwards, until the branches bear remnants of foliage that will not become attractive again. Cutting back may result in rejuvenating growth, but it is more appropriate to replace the entire planting. After flowering, the flower stalks should be cut off to give a neat appearance and to induce the production of new buds. A disadvantage is the brittle leaves and branches. They are easily damaged, which means that the Flaming Katy should be located carefully. In Arriyadh's climate, it does best if not exposed to full sun, especially in the afternoon. It should be used to bring its splendid colours into shady areas. It is very easy to multiply Flaming Katy by cuttings in spring or autumn.



GENERAL

Origin	: sub-tropical, tropical
Humidity	: semi-arid, semi-humid
Propagation	: cuttings
Maintenance	: low

CONDITIONS

Urban climate	: resistant
Dessication	: resistant
Stagnant water	: vulnerable
Irrigation	: low
Salinity/ppm	: moderate (2000 ppm)
Hardiness	: 0°C

SHAPE

Type	: cacti, succulents
Height	: 0.15 m-0.4 m
Spread	: 0.4 m-0.6 m
Foliage	: evergreen

FLOWER

Colour	: red, pink, white, orange, purple, yellow
Period	: March - December

FRUIT

Type of fruit	: capsule
Fruit size	: 0.5 cm
Toxicity	: inedible