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SPECIES	<i>Alternanthera tenella</i>
COMMON NAME	Calico Plant, Parrot Leaf
ORIGIN	Tropical America
DESIGN USE	Mixed colours to create patterns



HEIGHT

20–40cm

SPREAD

30–60cm

HABIT

Tender perennials that are usually grown as annuals and plants grow neat and compact.

FORM

Soft-stemmed sub-shrub with low mounded form

FLOWERS

Insignificant, tiny, white and in chaffy heads in leaf axils.

LEAVES

30–50cm x 10–15cm, glossy deep green.

VARIATIONS

“Betzickiana” (narrow red/pink leaves)

“Green & White” (more prostrate habit, broad leaves, sometimes reverting to plain green)

HORTICULTURE

Requires full sun to maintain leaf colour, moist, fertile well drained soil and regular trimming.

REFERENCES

<http://www.gardenguides.com/plants/info/flowers/annuals/alternanthera.asp#morebelow>

