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SPECIES	Codiaeum variegatum var. Pictum
COMMON NAME	Croton
ORIGIN	Malaysia, Pacific islands and northern Australia
DESIGN USE	Mass planting and to provide colour contrast with green tropical foliage



HEIGHT

1–3m

SPREAD

0.75–1.5m

HABIT

Woody shrub or small tree with extreme age in larger cv, developing a dense rounded form unless crowded.

FORM

Leaves are variable in size, shape and colour, spontaneous mutations (sports) with strikingly different variegation patterns

FLOWERS

White, fluffy on long spikes amongst foliage.

FLOWERING PERIOD

Blooms repeatedly

FRUIT

Rarely seen on cultivars

VARIATIONS

“Mad Painter” (old very bushy cv, almost solid yellow spotting)
“South Seas” (bushy with fine yellow spotting on small strap leaves)
“Petra”

CLIMATIC TOLERANCES

Rainforest understory shrubs in the wild. Dappled shade and shelter from hot dry winds, to retain humidity are essential in arid tropics. Needs bright light or partial shade, but should be shaded from direct summer sun.

HORTICULTURE

Prefers moist, humus-rich, well-drained soils in bright shade in most climates for best leaf colour and bushy growth.

REFERENCES

<http://www.mobot.org>
http://www.floridata.com/ref/C/codi_var.cfm
<http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/55385/>



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