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SPECIES

Ixora coccinea

COMMON NAME

Ixora, Jungle Flame, Flame-of-the-Woods

ORIGIN

Tropical south-east Asia, Southern India and Sri Lanka

DESIGN USE

Screen, border, above-ground planter, hanging basket or accent plant



HEIGHT

1.5–2.5m (the type species); 0.6–1.5m (dwarf cultivars)

SPREAD

2–4m; 0.5–1m respectively

HABIT

Evergreen, woody shrubs

FORM

The original species has loose caney branches, but clips into a solid dense hedge.



FLOWERS

5–8cm diameter hemispherical heads of many 4-peatalled flowers, typically orange-red.

FLOWERING PERIOD

Year-round

FRUIT

Small black fleshy, not seen on all cultivars.



VARIATIONS

“Twilight Glow” (glossy dark green leaf, flowers 2-tone pastel orange)

“Royal Ruffles” (brick red flowered mutation off the full size species)

“Nora Grant” (popular dwarf)

“Super King” (popular hybrid with much larger flower clusters)

CLIMATIC TOLERANCES

It is too tender to grow outside of the tropics and subtropics. It prefers a warm, humid climate with temperatures rarely dipping below 50F.

HORTICULTURE

Ixora coccinea and its cultivars are hardy long-lived shrubs, tolerating heat, wind, some salt exposure and drought once established. Requires full sun, some supplementary irrigation and well-drained soil, especially for the dwarf cv.

REFERENCES

<http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/shrubs/IXOCOCA.PDF>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ixora_coccinea

http://www.floridata.com/ref/I/ixor_coc.cfm

<http://www.thewisegardener.com/index.php?page=articles&aid=218>

