

Asclepias curassavica

(Butterfly-Weed, Milkweed, Blood FlowerSilkweed)

A bushy, evergreen sub-shrub with woody base. The leaves are opposite, narrow pointed . The flowers are in a flat umbrella showy orange-red florets with yellow centers. Like most milkweeds, it has milky sap. Scarlet milkweed is easy to grow, thriving in dry, moist, and even wet soils. It needs full sun to partial shade. Regular watering is adequate. If it freeze to the ground it will come back next spring.Use scarlet milkweed in perennial borders and meadow gardens.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: Asclépiade de Curaçao, Fleur de sang

Pronunciation: ass-KLEE-pee-us kur-uh-SAV-ick-uh

Plant Type: Shrub

Origin: Tropical America

Heat Zones: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

Hardiness Zones: 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

Uses: Hedge, Border Plant, Mass Planting, Container, Wildlife

Size/Shape

Growth Rate: Fast

Tree Shape: Round

Canopy Symmetry: Irregular

Canopy Density: Medium

Canopy Texture: Medium

Height at Maturity: 1 to 1.5 m

Spread at Maturity: 0.5 to 1 meter

Time to Ultimate Height: 1 to 2 Years

Notes

As plants age and become woody near the base ,cut them back to stimulate new growth .This will help them look good for many years.Butterflies can’t resist this evergreen perennial. In tropical conditions the plants ca bloom continuously.

Asclepias curassavica

(Butterfly-Weed, Milkweed, Blood FlowerSilkweed)



Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Alternate

Leaf Venation: Pinnate

Leaf Persistence: Evergreen

Leaf Type: Simple

Leaf Blade: 5 - 10 cm

Leaf Shape: Ovate

Leaf Margins: Entire

Leaf Textures: Rough

Leaf Scent: No Fragrance

Color(growing season): Green

Color(changing season): Green

Flower

Flower Showiness: True

Flower Size Range: 3 - 7

Flower Type: Cyme

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: No Fragrance

Flower Color: Orange, Red

Seasons: Summer, Fall

Trunk

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Generally resists breakage

Number of Trunks: Multi-Trunked

Trunk Esthetic Values: Not Showy

Fruit

Fruit Type: Follicle

Fruit Showiness: True

Fruit Size Range: 7 - 10

Fruit Colors: Brown

Seasons: Summer, Fall

Asclepias curassavica

(Butterfly-Weed, Milkweed, Blood FlowerSilkweed)



Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

- Frost Tolerant: Yes
- Heat Tolerant: Yes
- Drought Tolerant: Yes
- Salt Tolerance: Poor

Requirements

- Soil Requirements: Clay, Loam, Sand
- Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral
- Water Requirements: Moderate
- Light Requirements: Full, Part

Management

- Toxity: Yes
- Invasive Potential: Yes
- Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: Yes
- Pruning Requirement: Needed, to develop a strong structure
- Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: No
- Surface Rooting: No
- Life Span: Less than 25
- Edible Parts:
- Pests: Aphids
- Plant Propagations: Seed, Division

MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Other Image