

## Strelitzia reginae

### (Bird of paradise)

Strelitzia reginae is an evergreen clump forming perennial. It can reach a maximum height of 120 cm. Its large, bold dark gray-green leaves contrast nicely with its unusual crested flowers. The hard, beak-like sheath from which the flower emerges, is called the spathe, and has orange and blue petals. It flowers periodically throughout the year. The flowers are also used as cut flowers. The plant does well in full sun to semi-shade, and loves a rich loamy soil and plenty of water throughout the year, however it will tolerate drought very well. The plants are also wind resistant and grow well in coastal gardens.



Plant Image

#### Landscape Information

**French Name:** Strélitzia de la Reine, Oiseau de paradis

**Pronunciation:** strell-LITZ-zee-uh ree-JIN-nee

**Plant Type:** Groundcover

**Origin:** South Africa

**Heat Zones:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

**Hardiness Zones:** 10, 11, 12

**Uses:** Mass Planting, Indoor, Container, Cut Flowers / Arrangements

#### Size/Shape

**Growth Rate:** Slow

**Tree Shape:** Upright

**Canopy Symmetry:** Irregular

**Canopy Density:** Medium

**Canopy Texture:** Coarse

**Height at Maturity:** 0.5 to 1 m

**Spread at Maturity:** 0.5 to 1 meter

**Time to Ultimate Height:** 2 to 5 Years

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Flower Image

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### Botanical Description

#### Foliage

**Leaf Venation:** Pinnate

**Leaf Persistence:** Evergreen

**Leaf Type:** Simple

**Leaf Blade:** 30 - 50

**Leaf Shape:** Oblong

**Leaf Margins:** Undulate

**Leaf Textures:** Coarse

**Leaf Scent:** No Fragrance

**Color(growing season):** Blue-Green

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#### Flower

**Flower Showiness:** True

**Flower Size Range:** 7 - 10

**Flower Type:** Spike

**Flower Sexuality:** Monoecious (Bisexual)

**Flower Scent:** No Fragrance

**Flower Color:** Orange, Blue

**Seasons:** Year Round

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#### Trunk

**Trunk Has Crownshaft:** False

**Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage:** Generally resists breakage

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#### Fruit

**Fruit Type:** Capsule

**Fruit Showiness:** False

**Fruit Size Range:** 1.5 - 3

**Fruit Colors:** Brown

**Seasons:** Year Round

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Leaf Image

### Horticulture Management

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#### Tolerance

**Frost Tolerant:** No

**Heat Tolerant:** Yes

**Drought Tolerant:** Yes

**Salt Tolerance:** Poor

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#### Requirements

**Soil Requirements:** Clay, Loam, Sand

**Soil Ph Requirements:** Neutral

**Water Requirements:** Moderate, Low

**Light Requirements:** Part

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#### Management

**Toxity:** No

**Invasive Potential:** No

**Pruning Requirement:** Little needed, to develop a strong structure

**Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter:** No

**Surface Rooting:** No

**Life Span:** Less than 25

**Edible Parts:**

**Pests:** Scales

**Plant Propagations:** Seed, Division, Rhizomes

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Other Image