

## Codiaeum variegatum

### (Kroton)

Only few shrubs are available with such a great variety of beautiful leaf colors and shape as Croton .From ribbon-like strands to long, broad leaves, Color patterns range from multicolored spots to irregular color patches or solid-colored leaves with contrasting veins. What they have in common are rather thick evergreen alternate leaves, tiny inconspicuous star-shaped yellow flowers that hang down in long racemes and a milky sap that bleeds from cut stems. The plant is capable to reach 2-3 m in warm climate. But croton is usually seen at 1-1.5 m in height and is well-suited to use as a foundation, accent, specimen, or container planting. Croton displays its best leaf color when grown in full sun but can tolerate light, dappled shade. Croton is tolerant of a wide range of soils as long as it is well-drained.



Plant Image

#### Landscape Information

**French Name:** Croton

**Pronunciation:** koh-dih-EE-um var-ee-GAY-tum

**Plant Type:** Shrub

**Origin:** India Ceylon

**Heat Zones:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

**Hardiness Zones:** 10, 11, 12, 13

**Uses:** Screen, Hedge, Mass Planting, Indoor, Container, Wildlife

#### Size/Shape

**Growth Rate:** Slow

**Tree Shape:** oval

**Canopy Symmetry:** Symmetrical

**Canopy Density:** Medium

**Canopy Texture:** Coarse

**Height at Maturity:** 1.5 to 3 m

**Spread at Maturity:** 1.5 to 3 meters

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Flower Image

## Botanical Description

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### Foliage

**Leaf Arrangement:** Spiral

**Leaf Venation:** Pinnate

**Leaf Persistence:** Evergreen

**Leaf Type:** Simple

**Leaf Blade:** 10 - 20

**Leaf Shape:** Ovate

**Leaf Margins:** Lobate

**Leaf Textures:** Leathery

**Leaf Scent:** Unpleasant

**Color(growing season):** Green, Yellow, Variegated

**Color(changing season):** Green, Yellow

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### Flower

**Flower Showiness:** False

**Flower Size Range:** 1.5 - 3

**Flower Type:** Spike

**Flower Scent:** No Fragrance

**Flower Color:** Green, Yellow

**Seasons:** Year Round

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### Trunk

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

**Number of Trunks:** Multi-Trunked

**Trunk Esthetic Values:** Not Showy

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### Fruit

**Fruit Showiness:** False

**Fruit Size Range:** 0 - 1.5

**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:** No

**Salt Tolerance:** Good

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### Requirements

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

**Soil Ph Requirements:** Acidic, Neutral

**Water Requirements:** Moderate

**Light Requirements:** Part, Shade

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### Management

**Invasive Potential:** No

**Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases:** No

**Pruning Requirement:** Needed, to develop a strong structure

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

**Surface Rooting:** No

**Life Span:** Less than 25

**Edible Parts:** None

**Pests:** Mites, Scales, Aphids

**Plant Propagations:** Cutting, Layering

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## MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Other Image