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

Pronounciation: 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

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Spiral
Leaf Venation: Pinnate
Leaf Persistance: 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

Flower

Flower Showiness: False
Flower Size Range: 1.5 - 3
Flower Type: Spike
Flower Scent: No Fragance
Flower Color: Green, Yellow
Seasons: Year Round

Trunk

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Generally resists breakage
Number of Trunks: Multi-Trunked
Trunk Esthetic Values: Not Showy

Fruit

Fruit Showiness: False
Fruit Size Range: 0 - 1.5
Fruit Colors: Brown
Seasons: Year Round

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Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: No
Heat Tolerant: Yes
Drought Tolerant: No
Salt Tolerance: Good

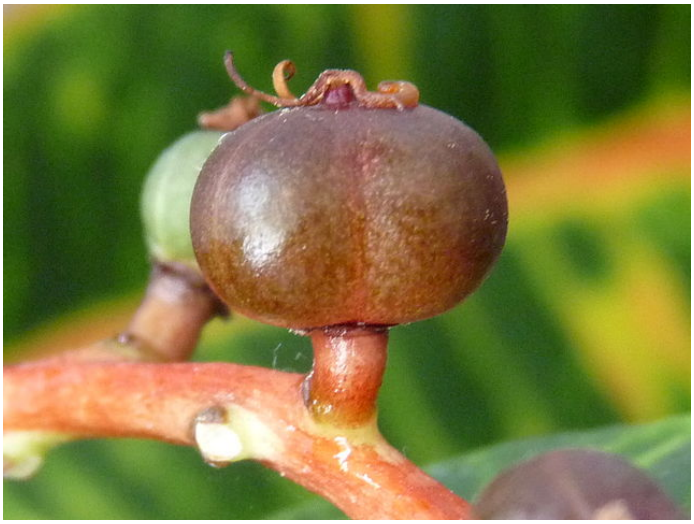
Requirements

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

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

MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image

Other Image