

Hidden Ginger / *Curcuma petiolata*



Curcuma petiolata has beautiful tropical looking fan-like foliage that grows from 3 to 4 ft. tall. In late spring to early summer it will produce long lasting yellow flowers with pink coma bracts. The flowers are found down in the foliage - thus the common name "hidden lily". These are very easy gingers to grow and they will increase quickly to a large

clump if you lift the rhizomes and divide them in early spring.

They are hardy to USDA zone 7B, but Curcumas have a natural dormancy period during the winter dry season, even in the tropics, and can easily be lifted for winter storage in colder areas. Some Curcuma species are prone to rotting of the rhizomes during dormancy, and should not be kept too wet during winter dormancy. This species is more tolerant than most with winter-wet conditions, making it easier to grow.

Light: partial to full shade

Moisture: Average moisture, drought tolerant, but grows best with regular waterings.

Propagation: Propagate by division of clumps or pieces of the rhizome.

Planting Instructions:

Plant your rhizomes 3 inches deep (from the top of the rhizome) in well draining soil. Lay your rhizomes down flat in the ground; if there are any small stems starting to grow on them, place the rhizome so those are facing UP; otherwise there is no 'up or down' requirement. Allow about a 12" diameter for each rhizome so they have room for growth. Do not over water, these have average water needs and are drought tolerant. If you receive your rhizomes during the winter, store in a cool, fairly dry place and plant in the spring after danger of freezing has passed.