East Bay Nursery

Banana Croton

Codiaeum variegatum 'Bananas'

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 10a

Other Names: Garden Croton, Variegated Laurel, Joseph's Coat

Description:

This woody perennial is largely considered as a houseplant in colder climates, noted for its striking foliage; wavy, narrow deep green foliage with golden yellow variegation; prefers bright indirect sunlight; easy to grow and low maintenance

Features & Attributes

Banana Croton features dainty racemes of white star-shaped flowers from late winter to early spring. Its attractive glossy narrow leaves remain dark green in color with showy gold variegation throughout the year.

This is a dense herbaceous evergreen houseplant with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its wonderfully bold, coarse texture is quite ornamental and should be used to full effect. This plant should not require much pruning, except when necessary to keep it looking its best.



Banana Croton foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Banana Croton in full
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

When grown indoors, Banana Croton can be expected to grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. This houseplant will do well in a location that gets either direct or indirect sunlight, although it will usually require a more brightly-lit environment than what artificial indoor lighting alone can provide. It does best in average to evenly moist soil, but will not tolerate standing water. The surface of the soil shouldn't be allowed to dry out completely, and so you should expect to water this plant once and possibly even twice each week. Be aware that your particular watering schedule may vary depending on its location in the room, the pot size, plant size and other conditions; if in doubt, ask one of our experts in the store for advice. It should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soil. Contact the store for specific recommendations on pre-mixed potting soil for this plant. Be warned that parts of this plant are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so special care should be exercised if growing it around children and pets.

There are many factors that will affect the ultimate height, spread and overall performance of a plant when grown indoors; among them, the size of the pot it's growing in, the amount of light it receives, watering frequency, the pruning regimen and repotting schedule. Use the information described here as a guideline only; individual performance can and will vary. Please contact the store to speak with one of our experts if you are interested in further details concerning recommendations on pot size, watering, pruning, repotting, etc.