

Botanical name:
Genus: Guzmania
Species: lingulata

Common name (s):
Scarlet star, Tufted plant

Latin Family Name:
Bromeliaceae

English Family Name: Bromeliad

The plant

Origin; country or region: Native to Central America and to the Caribbean

Growth habit: These tropical beauties are known as epiphytic plants and attach to trees with roots that never reach the soil
They need a light but without direct light

Flower description (if applicable): Striking bracts (or flowerhead) grow from the center of the plant, the flower stem is usually shorter than the leaves

Colours : Can be red, yellow, orange, or deep purple depending on the species

Blooming period/availability (if applicable): Guzmania plants are perennial plants in the bromeliad family

Leaf/Foliage Description: Leaves are thin and dark green
The green leaves, sometimes with dark crossbands, form a funnel-shaped rosette

Usage : It is grown for its foliage and its superb flower

STRENGTHS/OPPORTUNITIES:

Decorative Indoor flowering plants, very good for "Plant arrangements" or Garden locations

Used very successfully in indoor commercial situations such as shopping malls and office buildings

Guzmania do well in low light conditions and artificial light.

The flowers often last 2 to 6 months!

They also hold their color for an extended time making them ideal for indoor pot culture

Compliments with almost all small indoor greens (philodendrons/pothos) for plant arrangements/ gift baskets



TRIVIA : The leaves collect rainwater and the plant receives nourishment in its natural environment from decomposing leaves and droppings from monkeys and birds

WEAKNESS :

Sometimes end of the bract/leaves get brown easily and then the plant looks very unattractive
Not many colours available in India

Care & Handling

Longevity: The red flower usually lasts for as long as 2-6 months!

Water requirements: A light mist daily will keep your Guzmania looking its best or water into the 'floral bract' every few days (as the plant uses that to self water itself)

Light: Bright natural light

Soil/Nutrition requirements: Guzmania is a plant that requires soil that is sufficiently rich and well-drained to grow well
Special 'Coco peat' (mix of coconut husk + soil mix + nutrients) is the best option to grow the plant in

Special care/remarks:

One of my 'prized' indoor flowering plants, very easy to care and maintain

