

CROCOSMIA 'LUCIFER'

Crocoscma 'Lucifer'



Characteristics

- Perennial
- Zone: 5 to 9
- Height: 2.00 to 4.00 feet
- Spread: 1.00 to 2.00 feet
- Bloom Time: June to August
- Bloom Description: Scarlet red
- Sun: Full sun to part shade
- Water: Medium
- Maintenance: Medium
- Flower: Showy, Good Cut

Culture

Grow in medium moisture, moderately fertile, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Prefers full sun but appreciates part shade in hot summer climates. Plant corms in spring after last frost date approximately 3-4" deep and 6" apart.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Crocoscma is a genus of about 7 species of cormous plants from grasslands in South Africa. Montbretias are good fresh cut flowers which are frequently used in commercial flower arrangements. 'Lucifer' is an Alan Bloom hybrid (*Crocoscma* x *Curtonus*) which has flowers and foliage that are similar to gladiolus. A clump-forming plant that features tubular, nodding, scarlet red, one-sided flowers borne along the upper portions of stiffly arching, sometimes branched, flower scapes (stems) typically rising up to 3' (infrequently to 4') tall and slightly above the narrow, sword-shaped, basal leaves.

Problems

Spider mites can cause significant damage to the foliage, and, if left unchecked, can impair normal flowering.

Garden Uses

Best when planted in clumps of 12 or more. Provides color and contrast to the perennial border. May be grown in containers.

Courtesy of Missouri Botanical Society Plant Finder