

NELL HARVEY CANNA

Canna x generalis



Characteristics

- Type: Perennial
- Zone: 7 to 10
- Height: 1.50 to 8.00 feet
- Spread: 1.50 to 6.00 feet
- Bloom Colors: Yellow
- Bloom Time: July to August
- Flower: Showy
- Foliage: Green
- Sun: Full sun
- Water: Medium
- Maintenance: Medium

Culture

Best grown in moist, organically rich, well-drained soils in full sun. Rhizomes may be left in the ground in USDA Zones 7-10. Plant rhizomes 4-6" deep in spring after threat of frost has passed. Remove entire flowering stems immediately after bloom. In fall, cut plants to the ground immediately after first frost. In areas colder than Zone 7 lift rhizome clumps for winter storage in a dry medium (peat or vermiculite) in a cool dry location that does not fall below 40 degrees F. Container grown plants can be stored in their containers in winter.

'Nell Harvey' Canna in the Henderson County Master Gardener DREAM Garden was taken from the garden of Nell Harvey, a neighbor of one of the long-time Master Gardeners who helped start the DREAM Garden.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Cannas are large tropical plants that produce gladiolus-like flower spikes in summer atop erect stems sheathed in large paddle-shaped leaves. Plants sold in commerce are mostly hybrids ranging from 1.5' tall dwarfs to 8' tall giants. Flower colors typically include red, orange, pink, yellow, cream and some bicolors. Foliage colors include shades of green, bronze and striped/variegated. Dramatic foliage provides considerable ornamental interest when plants are not in flower. Genus name comes from the Greek word *kanna* meaning a reed.

Problems

Rhizomes may rot in poorly drained wet soils. Watch for aster yellows. Japanese beetles, caterpillars, slugs and snails may chew on the foliage.

Garden Uses

Mass in beds or borders. Large containers.