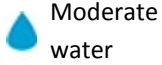


HAMELIA PATENS

Firecracker Bush



Moderate water



Full sun to part shade



Attracts butterflies



Attracts hummingbirds



Native to Mexico, Central America, Florida

Why we love it...

Firecracker bush is known by many common names, most of which make reference to the ever-present, bright red to orange flowers, or the fact that hummingbirds find it irresistible. Butterflies find it attractive as well, and all kinds of birds enjoy the dark, edible berries that can follow the flowers. Whatever you prefer to call this eye-catching perennial, we're sure that its reflected sun and heat tolerance and coppery new growth will impress you almost as much as its long-lasting scarlet blooms.

You may find that information on this plant varies from source to source because it behaves differently from region to region. Firecracker bush is more like a tree where there is no frost, but in Arizona it freezes to the ground in winter and comes back from hardy roots in spring to reach a compact and rounded form, exploding with blooms by summer.



Lydia says: Although firecracker bush appreciates frequent watering, it still likes to dry out between water applications, so good drainage is important!

Perennial shrub: *Hamelia patens*

Size (H x W): 3-4 feet x 3-4 feet

Blooms: Red from spring through fall

Exposure: Full sun to part shade

Hardiness Zone: 18° F, USDA Zone 8

Water: Moderate

Pruning: Winter

Growth Rate: Moderate to fast



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