Lindley's
Nursery and
Garden Center

Royal Hawaiian® Blue Hawaii Elephant Ear

Colocasia esculenta 'Blue Hawaii'

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 7a

Other Names: Cocoyam, Dasheen, Taro

Group/Class: Royal Hawaiian Series

Description:

An impressive variety with sea-green leaves with deep burgundy petioles and veins; a stunning garden or pondside accent plant for a tropical look

Ornamental Features

Royal Hawaiian Blue Hawaii Elephant Ear is primarily valued in the landscape or garden for its cascading habit of growth. Its attractive large heart-shaped leaves remain bluish-green in color with distinctive burgundy veins throughout the season. The burgundy stems are very colorful and add to the overall interest of the plant.

Landscape Attributes

Royal Hawaiian Blue Hawaii Elephant Ear is an open herbaceous perennial with a shapely form and gracefully arching foliage. Its wonderfully bold, coarse texture can be very effective in a balanced garden composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Royal Hawaiian Blue Hawaii Elephant Ear is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Royal Hawaiian Blue Hawaii Elephant Ear
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Royal Hawaiian Blue Hawaii Elephant Ear foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Royal Hawaiian Blue Hawaii Elephant Ear will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!



Royal Hawaiian Blue Hawaii Elephant Ear
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is quite adaptable, prefering to grow in average to wet conditions, and will even tolerate some standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Royal Hawaiian Blue Hawaii Elephant Ear is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.

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