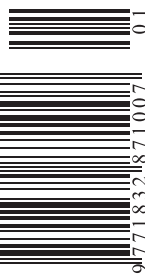


subTropical Gardening

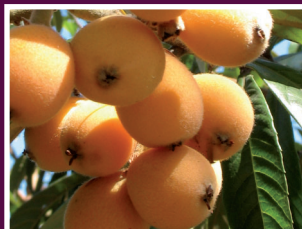
Gorgeous Gingers
Flooded Gardens
Golden Foliage
Herbs & Spices
Carnivorous Plants

local advice for
local gardeners

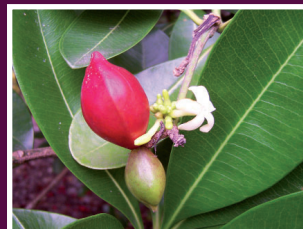
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■ GARDENS
– China + local



■ KITCHEN GARDEN
– fruit + vegies



■ NATIVES
– flowers + foliage



■ CALENDAR
– what to do now

A close-up photograph of a ginger flower spike, featuring a series of bright pink, pointed bracts arranged in a vertical, cone-like structure. The background is filled with lush green leaves, some in sharp focus and others blurred, creating a sense of depth. The lighting is bright, highlighting the texture of the flower and the vibrant colors.

**GLORIOUS
TROPICAL
ORNAMENTAL
GINGERS**



08 | Golden Heliotrope (*Heliotropium arborescens* 'Aureum').



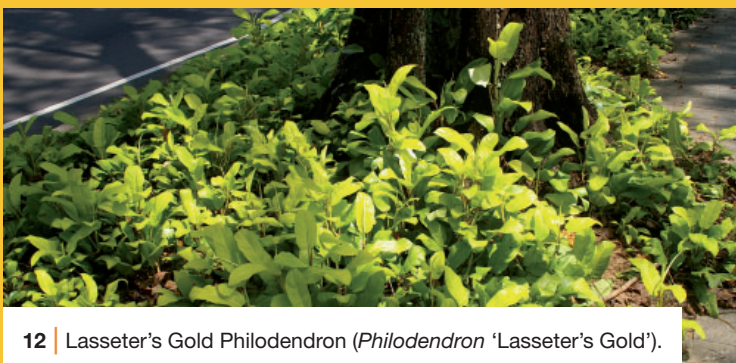
09 | Golden Sabre Fig (*Ficus binnendijkii* 'Amstel Gold').



10 | Golden Swamp Lily (*Crinum xanthophyllum*).



11 | Lacy Evodia (*Melicope denhamii* syn. *Euodia ridleyi*).



12 | Lasseter's Gold Philodendron (*Philodendron* 'Lasseter's Gold').

Additional popular golden foliated plants that are more readily available and thrive in warm climates include:

- Calkin's Gold Philodendron (*Philodendron* 'Calkins Gold')
- Clubmoss (*Selaginella pallescens*)
- Croton Apple Leaf (*Codiaeum variegatum* 'Apple Leaf')
- Dwarf Duranta (*Duranta erecta* 'Mini Gold')
- Dwarf Golden Flag (*Acorus gramineus* 'Minimus Aureus')
- Fan Dancer (*Nephrolepis exaltata* 'Fan Dancer')
- Fernleaf Aralia (*Polyscias cumingiana* 'Aurea')
- Gold Clusters (*Lysimachia congestiflora* cultivars)
- Gold Dust Croton (*Codiaeum variegatum* 'Gold Dust')
- Gold Mound Sedum (*Sedum mexicanum* 'Gold Mound')
- Golden Abelia (*Abelia x grandiflora* 'Francis Mason')
- Golden Baby's Tears (*Soleirolia soleirolii* (syn. *Helxine soleirolii*) 'Gold Pool')
- Golden Caricature Plant (*Graptophyllum pictum* 'Aureum')
- Golden Climbing Cactus (*Pereskia aculeata* 'Godseffiana')
- Golden Cocoyam (*Xanthosoma mafaffa* 'Lemon Zinger')
- Golden Cubmoss (*Selaginella kraussiana* 'Aurea')
- Golden Dinnerplate Aralia (*Polyscias pinnata* 'Golden Dinnerplate')
- Golden Dracaena (*Dracaena fragrans* 'Aurea')
- Golden Feverfew (*Tanacetum parthenium* 'Aureum')
- Golden Gem (*Homalomena* 'Golden Gem')
- Golden Gem (*Melaleuca bracteata* 'Golden Gem')
- Golden Goosefoot (*Syngonium podophyllum* 'Golden')
- Golden Heart Leaf Philodendron (*Philodendron hederaceum* var. *oxycardium* (syn. *Philodendron oxycardium*) 'Aureum')
- Golden Heliotrope (*Heliotropium arborescens* 'Aureum')
- Golden Jacobs Ladder Plant (*Euphorbia tithymaloides* (syn. *Pedilanthus tithymaloides*) 'White Peacock')
- Golden Jade Plant (*Crassula ovata* 'Hummel's Sunset')
- Golden Jade Plant (*Portulacaria afra* 'Aurea')
- Golden Japanese Sedum (*Sedum makinoi* 'Ogon')
- Golden Lucky Cane (*Dracaena aubryana* (syn. *D. thalioides*) 'Lucky Gold')
- Golden Madonna Lily (*Spathiphyllum* 'Golden Glow')
- Golden Mexican Heather (*Cuphea mexicana* 'Lemon Squash')
- Golden Peperomia (*Peperomia acuminata* 'Aurea')
- Golden Phaleria (*Phaleria clerodendron* 'Golden')
- Golden Pineapple Sage (*Salvia elegans* 'Golden Delicious')
- Golden Pothos (*Epipremnum aureum* 'Golden Queen')
- Golden Prayer Plant (*Calathea lietzei* 'Thai Beauty')
- Golden Privet (*Ligustrum sinense* 'Lemon & Lime')
- Golden Sabre Fig (*Ficus binnendijkii* 'Amstel Gold')
- Golden Sun Jewell (*Portulaca grandiflora* 'Golden')
- Golden Swamp Lily (*Crinum xanthophyllum*)
- Golden Tea Tree (*Melaleuca quinquenervia* 'Golden')
- Golden Weeping Fig (*Ficus benjamina* 'Golden King')
- Golden Xanadu (*Philodendron* 'Golden Xanadu')
- Imperial Gold Philodendron (*Philodendron* 'Moonlight')
- Lacy Evodia (*Melicope denhamii* syn. *Euodia ridleyi*)
- Lasseter's Gold Philodendron (*Philodendron* 'Lasseter's Gold')
- Lemon and Lime (*Philodendron hederaceum* 'Lemon Lime')
- Lettuce Tree (*Pisonia grandis* 'Alba')
- Limelight (*Dracaena fragrans* 'Limelight')
- Panda Fig (*Ficus macrocarpa* (syn. *F. nitida*) 'Panda')
- Revolution Gold (*Melaleuca bracteata* 'Revolution Gold')
- Sublime Lillypilly (*Acmena smithii* (syn. *Syzygium smithii*) 'Sublime')
- Yellow Aralia (*Osmoxylon lineare* 'Yellow')
- Yellow Blanchetiana Bromeliad (*Aechmea blanchetiana* 'Yellow')
- Yellow Giant Hyssop (*Agastache nepetoides* 'Golden Jubilee')

[List and Images by Arno King]

Dionaea

Venus Fly Trap

A single species identifies this iconic genus of plants, *Dionaea muscipula*. It appeals to children, especially young boys and for many can be their first foray into gardening.

Native to North and South Carolina in the United States of America, it is listed as vulnerable in its natural habitat. Thankfully it is cultivated around the world. Variable in the wild and bred for their distinctive features, cultivars are now available that display diversity in leaf colour and size.

At the apex of each distinctive leaf is a pair of toothed leaflets which form a spring trap, triggered by insects that stimulate the internal surface trigger hairs. Once closed, the insects are slowly digested and absorbed by the leaf. Traps only close three times after which that individual leaf will die. Luckily new leaves are produced throughout the growing season.

A small white daisy-like flower is produced in early spring though these are normally removed as they lower the production of good sized traps.

Bright light with up to 5 hours of direct sunlight (or part shade all day) and high humidity are needed for this plant during the growing season. Protect the plant from extreme high temperatures. In winter they go dormant but should not be allowed to dry out completely. Grow plants in a suitable carnivorous potting mixture sitting in trays of water. These plants do best with cooler winters, such as temperate, warm temperate and cool regions of the subtropics.



Crop rotation

Where space permits, consider a traditional rotational cropping system. Related plants have similar pest and disease problems and also similar nutritional needs. By growing them in a rotational system, you can minimise the build up of pest and disease problems and also address nutritional requirements more readily.

Plant groupings are based on the families they belong to. Grow one or more families together and then rotate them around to a different bed. Generally a 4 or 6 bed rotation is used.

In cooler climates vegetables grow more slowly. Also beds are often laid fallow for part of the year. In warmer climates we often interplant as crops are removed and cropping is year round due to our more favourable climate. This makes rotation a little more complicated, but still possible. Certain plants are particularly responsive to rotation. These include plants in the Potato, Cabbage, Onion and Legume families. »



Potato family = Solanaceae

Tomatoes, Potatoes, Eggplant, Capsicums, Chillies



Daisy family = Asteraceae

Lettuce, Chicory, Raddichio, Burdock, Toothache Plant

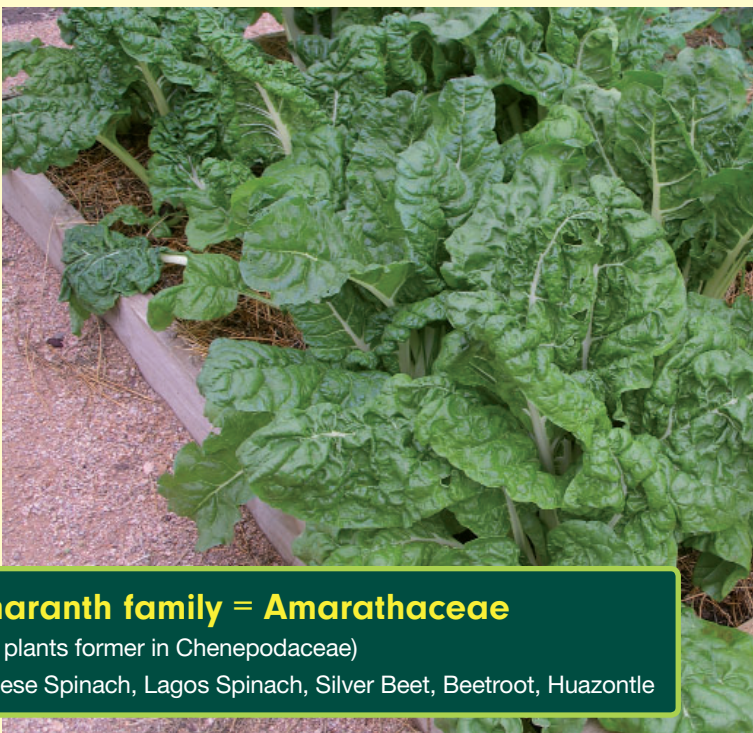


Hibiscus family = Malvaceae

Okra, Rosella

Carrot family = Apiaceae

Carrot, Parsnip, Celery, Celeriac, Coriander, Parsley



Amaranth family = Amaranthaceae

(and plants former in Chenopodiaceae)

Chinese Spinach, Lagos Spinach, Silver Beet, Beetroot, Huazontle



Legume family = Fabaceae

Beans, Peas, Snowpeas, Peanuts, Pigeon Peas, Broad Beans, Jicama

SUBTROPICAL TROPICAL SHRUBS COLLECTOR

Botanical

Aphelandra sinclairiana

Common

Coral Aphelandra, Sinclair's Aphelandra, Panama Queen, Orange Shrimp Plant

Family

Acanthaceae

A soft stemmed evergreen shrub from Costa Rica and Panama, the Coral Aphelandra is generally seen as a shrub to 1.8m but can reach 3m if left unpruned. This tropical plant loves warm humid conditions and regular water during the growing period.

Blooms generally appear during the winter months and in cool climates can become distorted if subjected to consistently cool weather. The flowers have short-lived tubular pink petals which protrude out from ornate orange long-lasting bracts. It is the vivid contrast of pink and orange that makes this plant a highly desirable garden plant in the tropics.

This plant can be somewhat leggy and benefits from annual pruning in spring to maintain an acceptable shape. The branches are fairly brittle and can easily break in strong winds.

Sensitive to frost, and to enhance flower production in the subtropics, grow it in a warm, sheltered location.

BEST GROWING CONDITIONS

- humid tropics and subtropics
- semi-shade
- well mulched and organically enriched fertile soils
- keep moist
- protect from frost and wind
- good drainage necessary
- fertilise regularly for best growth.

LANDSCAPE USE

- Understorey plant in the landscape.
- Feature specimen.
- Container plant for bush house.

