RORAIMA NURSERY

Newsletter No 26 **Summer 2018**

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

from

Management and Staff at Roraima Nursery

Here is an image of one section of the Roraima Garden. Pop in over the Xmas break and have a look at the recent changes.

During the holiday period, Roraima Nursery will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. We will be trading as normal from 9am till 5pm on all other days.

RORAIMA PLANT PROFILE

Disocactus flagelliformis

Commonly known as Rat Tail Cactus is the Spring flowering beauty that brightens up any garden with its masses of hot pink flowers that last a few weeks and become the conversation point in the garden. Preferring full sun/part shade and a free draining soil, it is an extremely easy cacti to grow. By providing a solid watering when the soil has dried out, this allows the plant sufficient moisture for longer periods. After a couple of years the plant has grown to look similar to that pictured to the left. This plant has been cut back on occasions so would be longer if not regularly trimmed (to make additional plants). Perfect hanging basket plant. By next Spring you too could have an impressive plant in your garden that everyone will talk about. Available in 15cm hanging baskets as pictured to the left for only $19.95**.** We will also have them available in 10cm pots as pictured to the right in the near future. Call us on 5282 8704 if you wish to preorder a 10cm pot. They will be 11.95 each.

SUMMER SENSATIONS

Disocactus martianus

Here is another Disocactus species that displays masses of red/orange shaded trumpet flowers in mid to late Spring/early Summer. Both the birds and bees love these blooms. Preferring full sun/part shade and a free draining soil, they are a great plant for hanging baskets and wall planters. Currently available in 20 cm hanging baskets as pictured to the right for only $24.95 each. In the near future we will also have them available in 10cm pots for $11.95 each, pictured to the right.

Clerodendrum bungei

Native to China and named after Professor Alexander von Bunge who was a Ukrainian botanist, Clerodendrum bungei is an easy-to-grow plant that requires semi-shade/light shade and a free draining soil. Bearing clusters of perfumed bright pink flowers with darker pink buds in Summer, it is a great plant for dry shaded areas. The Clerodendrum commonly known as Rose Glory Bower can be pruned back hard during winter. Propagation can be by division of the clumps or cuttings. It is capable of reaching 1.2-1.5m height. Available in 20cm pots as pictured to the right for only $19.95 each.

Agave mitis var albidior

Native to Mexico this medium sized Agave with glossy green leaves brightens up your garden. A very easy plant to maintain in all soil types so long as the drainage is taken into account for clay soils. Best to plant on a raised bed if your soil is mainly clay to avoid disappointment after a wet Winter. Preferring full sun/part shade and a free draining soil, this plant multiplies as can be seen in the image to the left taken by a staff member on a visit to Naples Botanic Gardens, Italy. This Agave can reach up to 1.2m height and 1m wide. Currently available in 10cm pots as pictured to the right for $9.95 each.

Trithrinax acanthacoma

Native to South America and commonly known as Saho Palm/Spiny Fibre Palm/ Brazilian Needle Palm, it is a slow growing palm that is tolerant to cold, heat and wind. It can also tolerate most soils. (Handled our toughest Winter here in Lara for the last 27 years and still looks good. We got down to -4degrees C.) Can reach 3m height locally but will take quite a long time. Similar in appearance to the Washingtonia robusta but smaller, slower growing and some spikes at the base of the trunk. Pictured to the far right is Roraima's Trithrinax acanthacoma that is 10-15 years old standing at only 1.3m height. Not a common palm in nurseries around Victoria, Roraima currently has a few 20cm pots for $39.95 and 25cm pots for $70 as pictured to the right.

Aspidistra elatior

For those of you looking for a tough plant to survive those shady spots inside, here it is. The Aspidistra elatior, commonly known at the Cast Iron or Bar Room plant is native to Taiwan and islands in southern Japan. It is regularly seen indoors in those hard to grow places. Aspidistra does not need a lot of light to successfully grow indoors. It can reach up to 60-80cm height and that leathery foliage look can clump to 1.5m wide. Preferring free draining soil and shady conditions it is currently available in 20cm pots as pictured to the right for only $19.95 each.

Mammillaria elongata crested form

Commonly known as the Brain Cactus is the very ornamental cactus that is generally found in decorative pots due to its appearance. Preferring full sun/part shade, frost free and a free draining soil this is a very easy cactus to grow. Not a speedy grower but over time will become a talking point as pictured to the left. Often seen in skull pots. Available in 10cm pots as pictured to the right for only $14.95each.

Agave salmiana var ferox

If you want a larger plant in your garden, this one might be for you. Native to Mexico this is a drought tolerant plant once established. Prefers free draining soil, but will grow successfully in raised clay beds. It is frost tolerant and prefers full sun/part shade. Agave salmiana var. ferox has yellow blooms on a tall spike that can reach up to 7 metres height. Available in 10cm pots as pictured to the right for only $7.95 each.

Words/terms for this season

Crested- fan-like form as in the Mammillaria elongate crested form

SUMMER JOBS

Keep mulch around plants to not only make removing weeds easier, but to assist with retaining moisture in the ground over the hot months.
Try and water early morning or late evening to ensure the soil remains moist for longer and the plants don't get burns from wetting foliage during the hot part of the day.

Lots of images for you to peruse through on Instagram. Join us. Please understand we are using Instagram to show you images and not answer questions. Questions will be answered via email or facebook.

Don’t forget to have a look at us on Facebook. Keep your eyes open for new plants and special offers.

We hope you enjoy your Summer gardening and should you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact us at Roraima Nursery. Be it in person, online or by phone, we will do our very best to look after you and your gardening needs.

Happy gardening,
From all at Roraima Nursery