RORAIMA NURSERY

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Happy Easter from the Staff and Management of Roraima Nursery.

We will be closed on Good Friday, and trading as normal from 9am till 5pm on all other days of the Easter Holidays.

RORAIMA PLANT PROFILE

Strelitzia juncea

Native to South Africa is this architectural plant that becomes a striking feature in any garden or large pot. It is slow growing in its early age, but as it matures, seems to speed up its growth. It has a similar flower to Strelitzia reginae, but its foliage is completely different. It has striking rush-like foliage with a narrow leaf blade at the top compared with the much larger leaf of S. reginae.

Strelitzia juncea generally takes 3-4 years to flower. Once that age, with adequate watering and feeding, it should flower each year. The flower of Strelitzia juncea appears below the level of the highest leaf tips as opposed to S. reginae where the flower is above the leaf tips. Pictured to the right is a 4 year old Strelitzia juncea in Roraima's developing display gardens. Below left is a Strelitzia juncea that is at least 70+ years old that has been growing at St Marys Church, Geelong, displaying its massive form, 2m height, texture and vibrant flowers for years.

Thanks to St Marys staff for allowing this image to be taken.

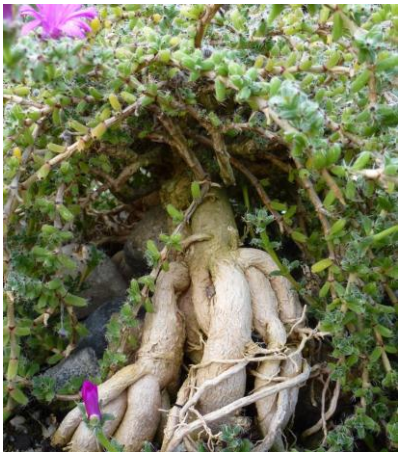
Preferring well-drained rich soil and full sun/part shade, it is a very easy plant to maintain.

Available in 20cm pots as pictured to the right for only $35.00.

AUTUMN ARRIVALS

Dioscorea hemicrypta

The genus Dioscorea was named after the ancient Greek physician and botanist Dioscorides, and comprises over 600 species. Native to South Africa, Dioscorea hemicrypta's caudex can grow up to 1.5m in height and 0.5m in diameter over a long period of time, reaching its full size in 30-50 years. It grows best in part shade with free draining soil and a frost free position. Tiny green flowers appear on the foliage that can grow up to 2-3m. Like all Dioscoreas, the greenery should be cut back during the dormant season and only minimal water provided if in a pot. The dormant season commences when the foliage begins to die. Foliage is then cut back to only a couple of centimetres above the caudex. The caudex may be either rough or smooth in texture. To reveal the caudex, it needs to be uplifted from the soil during either Autumn or Spring to prevent weather damage marks. If raising the caudex during the hot or cold seasons, protection to the caudex must be provided. Very rarely seen available for purchase in nurseries, Roraima has these currently available in 18cm terracotta pots as pictured to the right for $39.95.



Trichodiadema bulbosum

This very pretty caudiciform succulent is native to South Africa and is commonly known as the African Bonsai. The bonsai look can be achieved by raising the irregular underground caudex every few years to expose the roots. The desired effect can be achieved with age. Pictured to the left is Roraima's stock plant which is approximately 15 – 20 years old. Trichodiadema bulbosum is available in 10cm pots as pictured to the right for only $9.95 each.

Tylecodon schaeferianus

A member of the Crassulaceae family and native to Namibia is this dwarf species of the Tylecodons which only reaches about 10-15cm in height. Its short flowering stems grow at the ends of the branches with one or two small tubular flowers with white to pale pink petals. It prefers free draining soil and full sun/part shade. It is available in 10cm pots as pictured to the right for only $14.95.

Deuterocohnia brevifolia

Native to Argentina and Bolivia, and part of the Bromeliaceae family, this tight clumping silvery-green rosette plant is an attention getter in any garden. People stop to have a look as it is not a common plant around the garden. Preferring full sun/part shade and free draining soil it is a very easy plant to grow. Yellowy green tubular flowers appear on the plant during late Summer to early Autumn. It is available in 10cm pots as pictured to the right for $14.95 or $20.

Lotus berthelotii

Commonly known as Trailing Lotus this plant is native to the Canary Islands and displays masses of very striking flowers during Summer. A fine silvery/green foliage is present 12 months of the year, making a perfect ground cover or a hanging basket plant. The pea-shaped flowers provide a stunning display for several weeks. Pictured to the left is a plant that has only been in the ground for 12 months - quite a quick grower! It prefers full sun/part shade and a frost free area. It is drought tolerant once established. Lotus.berthelotii is available in 14cm pots for only $10.95 as pictured to the right.

Ceropegia dichotoma

Native to the Canary Islands is this slender succulent with a parachute-like flower. It can grow up to 1.2m in height in its native habitat, but generally in Victoria will reach 0 .6-1m in height. The mature plant pictured to the left is Roraima's stock plant which is approximately 8-10 years old and has been cut back several times. It currently stands at 70cm height and 60cm width. Ceropegia dichotoma requires well drained soil or potting mix and grows part shade/full sun. It is available in 10cm pots as pictured to the right for only $9.95.

Cynanchum insigne

This plant used to be known as Sacrostemma insigne but is now Cynancyum insigne, and is commonly known as Green Spaghetti or Can of Worms. One of 300 species, this thin leafless green stemmed plant branches out and becomes quite dense with time. It bears small variegated white and dark red flowers that are a waxy texture. It is available in 13cm hanging basket as pictured to the right for only $11.95.

Ceropegia fusca

Native to the Canary Islands is this fascinating creeping stem plant that can reach up to 80cm height locally. It prefers part shade to full sun and free draining soil/potting mix. Pictured to the right is a flower on a young plant. With age, the amount of flowers in the cluster increases until reaching the form shown in the picture to the left. These are for sale in 10cm pots for only $9.95 as pictured to the right.

Senecio deflersii

Native to South Yemen, and part of the Asteraceae family, this collector's plant prefers part shade to full sun. Commonly known as The Pickle Plant, Roraima's mature plant pictured to the left has reached 30cm height over a long time, but has had several cuttings taken from it for nursery propagation. A ball of yellow waxy flowers appears early Autumn. Very rarely seen in nurseries, it is available in 12cm terracotta pots as pictured to the right for only $19.95.

CACTI PROBLEMS

If you have ever wondered what can happen to a stunning cactus that has been overwatered, just take a look at this. This Melocactus concinnus pictured above, was approximately 30 years old and has now gone to the garden in the sky. These images show what can happen if you overwater your cacti. .If you see any signs of change in your cacti, make sure that you inspect the soil for a high level of moisture. This plant had a covering of stones on the surface and therefore retained more moisture in the soil for longer than if it were just in a straight cactus mix. Other factors that can influence the amount of a water a plant should receive are seasons and temperature, and a plant's dormancy period, during which it should be watered sparingly - if at all. Most cacti are dormant in Winter, but some come from regions of Winter rainfall and are dormant in Summer. As pictured to the left, these are the healthy cacti we all would prefer!

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 Autumn 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