



Emerald Goddess Gardens

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Botanical Name	Iris Hybrid Ann Chowning x Jazz Ballet
Common Name	Louisiana Iris Cyclamint
Mature Size	2 to 3 feet
Bloom Color	Purpled toned fuschia pink
Bloom Perio	Mid Spring to Early Summer
Boom Form	Classic Non Bearded Iris
Water	Uniformly Moist
Light	Full sun to very light shade
USDA Zone	6B, 7, 8, 9, 10
Fragrance	Light
Uses	Borders, Mass Plant, Naturalize, Potted
Special Features	Exotic Look, Easy Care



The **Louisiana Iris** is a part of the very large *Iris* or *Iridacea* Plant Family. The **Louisiana Iris** are a group of five species native to Louisiana *Iris fulva*, *Iris brevicaulis*, *Iris hexagona*, *Iris giganticaerulea*, and *Iris nelsonii*. Some of these species are also native to other Southern and Southeastern states, but Louisiana is the only area where all five can be found in their native habitats. These species will cross pollinate and interbreed with readily within the pool of the five, but not with other species. There are thousands of hybrids in an endless array of color combinations, some naturally occurring and others by the design of dedicated hobbyists and horticulturists who just love the plants. And there is plenty about them to love.

They are easy to grow, span a wide range of climates, and while they prefer moist, boggy soils, and so make wonderful additions to ponds and aquatic designs, they can also be successfully grown on higher ground, or as potted plants. They are reasonably pest free. In warmer climates, they are primarily evergreen, and begin to look their best in the Fall and Winter when other plants are generally not at their peak. Their dormant period is mid summer, when it's generally too hot in the tropics and sub-tropics to be outdoors anyway. A good offset to this is to give them other summer bloom plants as bedfellows.

For those of us in the tropics who have been forced to either admire those lovely Dutch, Japanese and Siberian Irises in pictures, or know and love them for a few fleeting months each year before they succumb to the sauna conditions of tropical summers, discovering the beautiful Louisiana Iris is a true gardening epiphany. They are as versatile as they are beautiful.

The **Louisiana Iris Cyclamint** is a complex hybrid derived from other crosses the five indigenous species, specifically **Ann Chowning x Jazz Ballet**, and was hybridized by Heather Pryor and introduced in 1995. It flowers throughout the Spring with large, elegantly ruffled blooms in multiple tones of soft purple toned fuschia and mauve highlighted by a mint green throat bleeding into bright yellow signals on each petal forming a star design. Simply a stunning flower.

- Plant in fertile slightly acidic soil
- Locate in full sun to very light dappled shade
- Space about 1 to 2 feet apart
- Cover roots and shallow rhizomes with thick layer of mulch
- Supply supplemental irrigation to maintain consistent moisture
- Feed a good quality slow release fertilize with the initial planting.
- Inspect regularly for symptoms of pests or disease and treat promptly.

If you have any questions or want more info, please email me at emeraldgoddessgardens@gmail.com any time. If you don't know your USDA Zone, check it on our website: emeraldgoddessgardens.com

Care of Your New Water Garden or Bog Plant

Here are a few basic guidelines for handling and caring for your new plant.

- Immediately remove the plant from the wrapping, including the moisture retention gel in the bottom of the pot.
- Check the individual plant requirements. Some bog water garden plants need to be submerged, while others just need constant moisture available.
- Repot or plant in the new location.
- Maintain consistent and uniform moisture in the soil.
- Do not allow bog or water garden plants to dry out.
- Packing crystals may be reused to conserve water, but do so with caution as they hold 6000 times their weight in water.
- If reusing the crystals, mix and incorporate them thoroughly throughout the potting media.
- Feed with products designed for water garden and bog products.
- Avoid highly water soluble fertilizers to avoid runoff and contamination of surrounding water. For indoor plants, water in closed vessels may need to be changed frequently.
- Monitor for signs of disease or insects and treat accordingly.
- Protect from frost and freeze, as cold tolerant plants can be damaged by cold when young.

For quick answers to any growing or planting questions, just email us at emeraldgoddessgardens@gmail.com.

You can check your USDA Zone by visiting our website at emeraldgoddessgardens.com.

Ornamental Plants sold by Emerald Goddess Gardens are intended for use as ornamental decorative items only. Parts of many plant species contain compounds that are scientifically validated as biologically active, and should therefore be considered toxic. Emerald Goddess Gardens does not recommend nor endorse the ingestion or any other use of ornamental plants for homeopathic treatments, herbal remedies, spiritual experience enhancement, or recreational use. .