



Emerald Goddess Gardens

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Botanical Name	Hibiscus rosa senensis
Common Name	Hula Girl, James Hendry
Mature Size	3 to 4 feet
Plant Family	Malvaceae
Bloom Color	Medium Yellow, Pink Throat
Bloom Period	Perpetual
Boom Form	Large Classic Hibiscus Fancy Single
Water	Moderate
Light	Protect from direct hot sun
USDA Zone	Zone 9, 10, 11 (cold protection required all zones)
Fragrance	None
Uses	Feature, Standard, Potted
Special Features	Large Showy Flowers, Best grown as a potted plant.



have perhaps the largest variation of bloom colors as any species, there are literally thousands with new hybrids constantly being introduced. Among the most popular ones are those classed as 'Exotics'. This class has larger, fancier flowers than the classic landscape types, however the plants tend to need more tending and care than the more resilient landscape types.

James Hendry, or Hula Girl, is an older hybrid cultivar with very large classic single flowers of bright clear medium yellow with a brilliant deep maroon red throat, softly lined in white. It was hybridized by James Hendry in Fort Myers, Florida, and registered as 'James Hendry'. This same plant was later marketed commercially by Monrovia as '*Hula Girl*', and probably best known by that name.

For reasons, having nothing to do with beauty or form, it is seldom grown commercially now. *Hula Girl* is a slower grower that is somewhat difficult to propagate and does not lend itself well to fast, mass production.

It is a highly prized and sought after 'must have' plant for new hibiscus collectors, as it represents one of the best results in early hybridizing of seedling crosses. *Hula Girl* can be successfully grown in the landscape, with a few special accommodations, such as avoiding over watering, over head irrigation and night time watering, protection from hot afternoon sun and chilling.

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants is not recommended, and although *Hula Girl* can be successfully grown planted in the tropical landscape, it takes added care and attention, and will generally perform better and live longer when grown as a potted plan

For the best results:

- Best results when grown as a potted plant
- Plant in well draining fertile soil. Amend soil with organic composted material as is needed.
- Locate in light shade, protect from direct, hot, afternoon sun
- Provide supplemental irrigation, but take care not to over-water, as this one really dislikes soggy soil conditions. Avoid overhead and night time watering.
- Feed a high quality, bloom boosting fertilize with the initial planting and twice yearly thereafter.
- Prune lightly and often when the plant is young and becoming established to develop a strong central stem and interior body.
- Maintain good air circulation and avoid over crowding.
- Feed a good quality, slow release, bloom boosting fertilize with the initial planting and twice yearly thereafter.
- Inspect regularly for symptoms of pests, nutritional deficiency, and disease regularly and treat promptly. Spray preemptively in hot, humid weather to prevent fungus and bacterial infections.
- Protect from chilling, frost and freeze.

For quick answers to any growing or planting questions, just email us at emeraldgoddessgardens@gmail.com. You can check your USDA Zone on the map on our website emeraldgoddessgardens.com.

Care of Your New Hibiscus Plant

Here are a few basic guidelines for handling and caring for your new tropical hibiscus plant:

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size Tropical Hibiscus directly into the landscape is not recommended. So, for the best results with your new hibiscus plant we suggest that it be repotted into a larger pot and allowed to grow larger until the new pot is filled with roots before setting out.

- Immediately unpack, remove the wrappings and shipping gel and discard the gell.
- Re-pot the new plant into a 6 inch to 10 inch diameter pot that can drain easily and thoroughly.
- Use a good quality commercial potting media.
- Apply a high quality, slow release plant food according to the label directions. Do not use hot, all chemical fertilizes like 6-6-6 or 10-10-10.
- Locate so that the plant can receive direct, full spectrum light for several hours daily, but is protected from hot, direct afternoon sun.
- Maintain consistent and uniform moisture in the soil. Take care not to over water.
- 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.
- Be sure the pot can drain and that the bottom of the pot does not sit submerged in water for more than a day.
- Supplement feed with a water soluble plant food every 2-3 weeks according to the label directions.
- Prune or pinch lightly and often when the plant is young and actively growing to strengthen the central stalk and encourage branching and build uniform shape.
- Monitor for signs of disease or insects and treat accordingly.
- Protect from frost and freeze.

Tropical Hibiscus and many other tropical and subtropical plants can be grown as potted plant indefinitely and can be successfully wintered over indoors in colder climates, so long as they are moved indoors well ahead of temps into the 30's, are maintained in warm environment (minimum 40°F) with adequate, full spectrum light, and consistent soil moisture is maintained.

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This plant is intended for use as an ornamental, decorative item only. Emerald Goddess Gardens does not recommend, endorse nor offer the product for any other use.