



Emerald Goddess Gardens emeraldgoddessgardens.com

- Botanical Name: Colocasia esculenta 'Metallica'
- Common Name: Taro 'Metallica', Elephant Ears 'Metallica'
- Plant Family: Arum
- Mature Size: 3 – 6 ft.
- Growth Habit: Clumped, Upright
- Bloom Color: Yellowish Green
- Bloom Form: Calla lily-like blooms
- Bloom Time: Inconsistent
- Water Needs: Frequent watering
- Light Needs: Partial shade
- Recommended Zones: 8, 9, 10
- Key Features: Shiny Bronze to Olive Green Leaves, low-maintenance foliage
- Suggested Uses: Potted specimen, landscape border, water garden accent
- Growers Notes : **All parts should be considered toxic ! *****



Colocasia esculenta or Elephant Ears 'Metallica' is a stunning plant that requires little maintenance for a beautiful year-round appearance. This plant can be grown in shaded areas with high moisture and will produce large, stunning leaves bronze to olive green in color.

Colocasias or Elephant Ears, as they are so aptly named, produce giant leaves. Metallica's dark foliage can reach two feet in length at maturity. This species is considered a perennial in warm climates, but can become damaged during winter if exposed to frost.

Native to Asia, this plant species was brought to the United States in the 1800s and has been gracing southern gardens ever since. Colocasias are adaptable, tolerant plants that can survive in drier climates or easily creep into the borders or wetlands or swamp areas.

Direct planting of 4 inch starters is not recommended. For success with your new Metallica Colocasia, follow these helpful tips:

- Plant in well draining soil.
- Locate in partial sun to shade.
- Provide supplemental irrigation until well established.
- Prune lightly after flowering to encourage branching and shape.
- Feed a good quality bloom boosting fertilize with the initial planting and yearly thereafter.
- Protect from frost and freeze until very well established.

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

If you don't know your USDA Planting Zone, you can check the map on our website site at emeraldgoddessgardens.com

Toxicity information generally known in the horticultural trade and gardening circles, if known, is provided for reference purposes only. Medical and/or Horticulture experts in the field of Plant Toxicology should be consulted for specific and reliable information. The absence of information does not mean or imply that a plant is not toxic, only that no information is generally known by us.

This plant is intended for ornamental, decorative use only. Emerald Goddess Gardens tm does not recommend, endorse, or offer the product for any other intended use.

Care of Your New Indoor Plant

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

Check the recommended USDA Zone Range for the plant. Many gardeners are able to successfully grow plants outside their recommended Zones, but this is dependent upon providing the type of environment and care the plant needs.

- Immediately remove your new plant from its packaging by removing any stakes or ties that have been used to protect it during shipping and removing packing crystals from the bottom of its pot.
 - 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.
- After allowing several days for acclimation, re-pot the plant into a pot at least one inch, but no more than three inches larger in diameter than the pot it was shipped in.
 - Decorative pots are often deceiving. Check to make sure that your new pot has drainage holes at the bottom that allow water to pass through with ease.
 - A non decorative plastic pot that has drainage is often placed inside a larger decorative pot to ensure adequate drainage while maintaining aesthetics.
- Use a good quality potting media. Many retail centers supply a potting mix specialized for potted gardening that is ideal.
 - Take care to avoid potting mixes advertised as 'moisture control' as these can lead to waterlogged roots.
- Supplement feed with a water soluble plant food every 2-3 weeks according to the label directions.
- Remove any leaves that were stressed or damaged during shipping. Some species such as Colocasia and Calathea have a central leaf chute that should not be cut until a new leaf emerges.
- Protect from frost and freeze, as even cold tolerant plants can be damaged by cold, and tropicals will perform better, flower earlier, and live longer within their Zone Range when protected from cold temperatures.

Many tropical and subtropical plants can be grown as potted plants indefinitely, and can be successfully wintered over, or adapted to growing indoors year round in colder climates. The most important factors to keep in mind when growing tropicals indoors are light, temperature, and humidity. Many popular indoor plants are native to rainforests and jungles where temperatures and humidity are high. To replicate this environment for successful growth place indoor plants in areas that are not near air conditioning vents, have exposure to bright indirect light, and supplement humidity with a humidifier as needed.

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

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