



Emerald Goddess Gardens

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Botanical Name	<i>Ixora coccinea</i> hybrid
Common Name	Thai Snow
Mature Size	Semi Dwarf 2 ft x 2 ft
Bloom Color	White to cream
Bloom Period	Summer to Early Fall
Boom Form	Star Shaped Clusters
Water	Moderate
Light	Full Sun to Vry Lt Shade
USDA Zone	10 & South
Fragrance	None
Uses	Hedge, Accent, Specimen, Potted
Special Features	Slow bushy grower, will grow in light shade, variegated foliage.



The **Thai Snow Ixora** is a somewhat rare and lesser known Ixora Hybrid from Thailand. It has small rounded leaves glossy medium to deep green leaves that vary from splashed and speckled with white variegation to almost solid creamy white new growth. The growth habit is semi-dwarf, maturing at around 2 feet with a dense, tight, growth habit. It blooms in clusters of white to near white star shaped florets beginning in early summer from and continuing until well into the fall in warm tropical and semi tropical climates. The flowers are nectar rich and attract hummingbirds and butterflies. It's best and most interesting feature however is the variegated foliage and slower growth habit.

This is one that makes especially nice potted plants and works well as in light shade to brighten and add texture. It does not bloom as prolifically and is not as showy as most of the green leaved ixoras, so the primary feature to consider when placing is the strikingly pretty variegated leaves which vary from being lightly mottled and sprinkled cream on the older to leaves to near solid creamy white barely dusted with emerald green. It's one of my personal favorite.

Direct planting of 4 inch size starter plants is not generally recommended, so for the best results with your new ixora plant, we recommend it be repotted and allowed to grow larger before setting out in a tropical to subtropical landscape.

When the new pot has filled with roots and the plant is larger, then here are a few hints for successful growing in the landscape. Ixoras can be grown as a potted plants indefinitely.

- Plant in fertile well draining, slightly acidic soil (amend with high quality compost as needed)
- Locate in full sun.
- Provide regular irrigation to maintain consistent soil moisture.
- Feed a good quality, slow release, bloom boosting plant food with the initial planting and twice yearly thereafter.
- Supplement with a water soluble plant food in between feeding.
- Prune lightly and often when young to encourage branching.
- Protect from frost and freeze.

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

Care of Your New Plant

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

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants or plugs directly into the landscape is not recommended, with a few exceptions. So, for the best results with your new 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.

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 repot the new plant into a 6 inch to 10 inch diameter pot (a 6 inch pot is the recommended size for starter plugs) 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 fertilizers 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 few hours.
- 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, 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 indoors in colder climates, so long as they are moved indoors well ahead of temps into the 30°F's, are maintained in warm environment (minimum 40°F) with adequate, full spectrum light, consistent soil moisture is maintained, and any pest or disease issue are promptly and properly addressed.

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