



Ixora Care

The Brazos Valley is fortunate to have tropical weather during many months of the year. Most years, our winters are mild as well. These conditions make possible the use of many tropical blooming plants in our landscapes.

IXORA VARIETIES

Coming in all colors and sizes, Ixora bloom best when it is hot, taking most of the spring to put on new growth and produce flower buds. Once flowering has begun, you will enjoy color all summer long.

Ixora are lush, large-leaved shrubs that produce rounded clusters of star-shaped blooms. These clusters can grow to 7 to 8 inches in diameter, and are scattered randomly throughout the plant. They appear on the tips of new upright stems and are readily visible, being fully exposed to the sun.

"Maui" is a bright red-orange variety that produces a medium size shrub with medium size foliage.

"Nora Grant" is a dark pink blooming variety with a habit similar to Maui.

"J.G. Yellow" produces butter yellow blooms on a shorter, compact shrub.

"Superking" is a large growing variety often growing to 5-6 feet tall with large, glossy leaves and large dark red blooms. This is a striking variety.

Dwarf ixora or "Taiwan-ensis" come in red, yellow, pink and orange. They are ultra-compact, often growing to no more than 8 to 10 inches. They bloom in great profusion, but are slow to re-bloom. If space is a problem, try these compact tropical jewels.

PLANTING

Plant your Ixora in a sunny, raised area, using plenty of planting mix or soil mix to raise the level of the bed. Dig a hole 1.5 to 2 times wider than the root size, but no deeper than the original pot. Rest the root system on the undisturbed soil in the bottom of the hole and fill around the roots with your prepared bed mixture. Water your new plant with a root stimulator, following directions on the label. If

a trellis is necessary or desired, install it no more than 12 inches away from the plant so that it will be readily available for support.

WATERING

Ixora are very sensitive to drying out and should be watered regularly and thoroughly, but care should be taken to not over water your planting. Deep watering will ensure that roots will grow deeply and can be protected from drought.

FERTILIZING

A regular application of fertilizer aids in the formation of new flower buds. Since flowers spring from new growth, encouraging new growth will therefore encourage more blooms. Supplemental feedings with a water-soluble fertilizer can be made throughout the growing season. Our Heirloom Gardens Hibiscus Fertilizer is formulated with many tropical blooming plants in mind, offering the correct balance of leaf-inducing nitrogen, bloom-promoting phosphorous, and vigor-imparting potassium.

INSECTS & DISEASE

Like many tropicals, ixora is susceptible to mealy bugs and spider mites. Insecticidal soaps are effective, as is Orthene spray (follow all directions on the manufacturer's label). If your planting is healthy and gets plenty of sunshine, your plants will be likely to fend off many pests of their own.

WINTER PROTECTION

By growing ixora in containers, you can more precisely control growing conditions. You can offer winter protection by moving the container into the warmth of a garage. You can install drip irrigation to individual pots and apply soluble fertilizers.

Plant containers using Heirloom Gardens Blooming Tropical Mix, which has no added fertilizers to increase soil salts and burn roots.