

# PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR FIREBUSH

(HAMELIA PATENS)

## FIREBUSH FACTS:

Firebush is a large, flowering shrub, which can grow 8 to 12 feet tall without support. With support, such as a trellis, Firebush can grow 15 to 20 feet tall. Firebush does prefer full sunlight, but will still tolerate shade with less flower production. Its most notable features are the bright orange - red flowers that grow annually in warmer climates. The lovely flowers are tubular and attract pollinators, so they are perfect for butterfly gardens or decorative hedges. They also produce a black, rounded, fruit that birds and small mammals like to feed on.

## HOW TO PLANT:

Plant Firebush in a location that gets full sunlight, or partial shade, to encourage flowering. Firebush is best planted in USDA zones 8-11 and flourishes in the spring and summer, although it is tolerant year around. During a freeze, Firebush may die back, but typically flourishes again in the warmer seasons. A well drained soil is recommended, along with regular watering - especially until it is fully established in the planted area. Firebush is a hearty grower, so it can be used as hedging and needs regular maintenance to keep it's shape. Although pruning is necessary, over cutting is something to be cautious of, and can lead to less flower blooms.

