

# BUCHANAN'S

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# NATIVE PLANTS

## Tropical Hibiscus

Hibiscuses are evergreen shrubs that give off beautiful flowers that bloom in a wide range of oranges, yellows, peaches reds, pinks and whites. In the Houston area, these fast-growing Asian exotics can get up to 15 feet in height, wow! In warmer climates like Houston, individuals choose to plant hibiscus plants in their perennial gardens as hedge shrubs.

## Tropical Hibiscus Care

### Soil

Hibiscuses appreciate a well-drained, potting mix soil. Ideally you would use a soil that is formulated for tropical plants. If outdoors, your soil should contain lots of organic matter. Regardless of location, please make sure your plant has proper drainage to avoid the risk of root rot.

### Fertilizer

Hibiscus plants typically are sold with slow-release fertilizer combined into the soil. After a few months of having your hibiscus, starting a regular feeding schedule of diluted fish emulsion fertilizer will help maintain those beautiful blooms.

### Water

**Tropical Hibiscus is a very thirsty plant.** They grow best in consistently moist but well-drained soil. You will want to water the plant once to twice a day. Yellowing leaves at the top of the plant is an indication of your plant not getting enough water. If the yellowing leaves are towards the middle or bottom of the plant, you are overwatering the plant.

### Pests

Tropical Hibiscus are susceptible to spider mites and aphids when brought indoors. Bacterial diseases may