



937-426-0861  
www.knollwoodgardens.com

## Colocasia: Elephant Ears

Are these Colocasias a bulb or a plant? They make only fibrous roots and therefore cannot be called bulbs. The plants are not dormant; they have flushed out already and have been cut back for shipping.

When can we plant these plants in the landscape? We recommend that you do not plant these directly into the garden until after last frost date (May 15). Transplant into a larger pot until then to encourage early growth. Officially they are only hardy in zones 7 to 10, (we are Zone 5, nearly 6). Some claim they can survive down to 0 degrees Fahrenheit without damage.

In what kind of temperature do they grow best? The optimum temperature is between 65 and 90 degrees. They do like it hot: optimum growing temperature is 75.

How deep do I plant them? The top of the bulb should be approximately 2" deep, space them at 20-24" apart.

What kind of light do they require? They grow in partial shade to full sun. However, if they do not get enough sun they will turn entirely green.

How much water do they need? As they are sometimes used as aquatic plants, they require plenty of water.

How should they be fertilized? Most are heavy feeders. They require plenty of slow release fertilizer.

How do we winterize these Colocasias? The main thing to remember is don't let them freeze. Keep them above 50 degrees. They can be stored in a green house or you can stop watering them, cut back to 2" and store.



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