

Haemanthus coccineus

COMMON NAME

Blood lily, blood flower

SYNONYMS

Wikipedia cites the following synonyms: *Haemanthus callosus* Burch. ex Baker; *Haemanthus carinatus* L.; *Haemanthus coarctatus* Jacq.; *Haemanthus concolor* Herb.; *Haemanthus crassipes* Jacq.; *Haemanthus hookerianus* Herb.; *Haemanthus hyalocarpus* Jacq.; *Haemanthus latifolius* Salisb.; *Haemanthus moschatus* Jacq.; *Haemanthus splendens* Dinter; *Haemanthus tigrinus* Jacq.; *Perihemia coarctata* (Jacq.) Raf.

FAMILY

Amaryllidaceae

AUTHORITY

Haemanthus coccineus L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Monocots

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Large subterranean bulb from which flower heads emerge February-March (in NZ). Each head of flowers is surrounded by scarlet bracts. Some weeks after flowering the large lark green fleshy leaves appear, two or three per bulb. Petioles red-spotted. The leaves die off in November-December.

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink

FRUITING

Translucent, fleshy berries are set occasionally in cultivation in NZ.

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Bulb division; seed

YEAR NATURALISED

2005, as garden discard

ORIGIN

South Africa, Namibia

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Colin C Ogle, 13 Oct 2016

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

<http://www.plantzafrica.com/planthij/haemancoc.htm>

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/haemanthus-coccineus/>



Garden, Forres St, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 15/03/2015, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Garden, Forres St, Whanganui. Flowers surrounded by scarlet bracts (spathe). Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 15/03/2015, Licence: CC BY-NC.