

Kransaalwyn (Aloe arborescens)



Aloe arborescens, the krantz aloe or candelabra aloe, is a species of flowering succulent perennial plant that belongs to the genus *Aloe*, which it shares with the well known and studied *Aloe vera*. The specific epithet *arborescens* means "tree-like". *Aloe arborescens* is valued by gardeners for its succulent green leaves, large vibrantly-colored flowers, winter blooming, and attraction for birds, bees, and butterflies.

Rating: Not Rated Yet

Price

Sales price R 35,00

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Description

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Aloe arborescens is a large, multi-headed, sprawling succulent, and its specific name indicates that it sometimes reaches tree size. A typical height for this species is 2–3 metres (6.6–9.8 ft) high. Its leaves are succulent and are green with a slight blue tint. Its leaves have small spikes along its edges and are arranged in rosettes situated at the end of branches. Flowers are arranged in a type of inflorescence called a raceme.

South African Aloe: Kransaalwyn (*Aloe arborescens*)

The racemes are not branched but two to several can sprout from each rosette. Flowers are cylindrical in shape and are a vibrant red-orange color.

Taxonomically, it forms part of the *Arborescentes* series of very closely related *Aloe* species, together with *Aloe pluridens* and *Aloe mutabilis*.

Distribution

Aloe arborescens is endemic to the south eastern part of Southern Africa. Specifically, this range includes the countries of South Africa, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe. It has the third largest distribution amongst the aloe genus. Although *Aloe arborescens* has adapted to many different habitats, its natural habitat usually consists of mountainous areas, including rocky outcrops and exposed ridges. Its common name *krantz aloe* refers to the Afrikaans word "*krantz*", which means a rocky cliff. Its habitat can vary, and it is one of only a few species of aloe that is found growing from sea level up to the tops of mountains.

It is also widely distributed (to the point of becoming naturalized) in the western Mediterranean, Australia, California, Japan, South Korea and the Marshall Islands. It is an invasive species in Portugal.

Cultivation

Aloe arborescens is valued by gardeners for its succulent green leaves, large vibrantly-colored flowers, and winter blooming. The sweet nectar attracts birds, butterflies, and bees. With a minimum temperature of 10 °C (50 °F), in temperate regions it is grown under glass. The cultivar *A. arborescens* 'Variegata' has gained the Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Garden Merit. In Southern Africa, *Aloe arborescens* is traditionally planted around kraals (domestic stock enclosures) as a living fence or security hedge. It often happens that the position of old kraals can still be seen many years after they have been abandoned, because the aloes persist. It is easily propagated by cuttings.

For more information, find source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aloe_arborescens

Reviews

There are yet no reviews for this product.