

Pineapple Lily – *Eucomis* sp.



Eucomis or Pineapple lilies are hardy perennial bulbs from Southern Africa. They are very easy to grow and will flower every year requiring little feed and watering. *Eucomis* will grow quite happily in full sun, in the ground or in pots. Most are root hardy down to at least -10C. The following should be noted regarding their

maintenance and appearance:

- ✓ *Eucomis* are surprisingly drought tolerant, which makes them good candidates for pots and dry sunny parts of the garden.
- ✓ An application of top dressing containing slow release fertilizer in the spring should be sufficient feed for the whole season. *Eucomis* are widely regarded as low feed plants. Excess feed will result in long soft leaves that collapse and look unsightly.
- ✓ If growing in the ground, plant somewhere that is dry over the winter for example at the base of a wall. *Eucomis* dislike winter wet so incorporate grit when planting and add a layer of mulch during the winter to protect the bulb from freezing.
- ✓ The first frosts will kill off most of the foliage. New growth will re-emerge the following spring.

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