

Bird of Paradise
Strelitzia reginae



Bird of Paradise

Strelitzia reginae

Family: Strelitziaceae

Stem & Leaf Type: herbaceous

Leaf Color: dark green

Fall Color: evergreen

Flower Time: year-round; peak in winter

Flower Color: orange and purplish-blue

Fruit: Not significant

Light: full sun

Moisture: well-drained, to a little
on the dry side

USDA Hardiness

Zones: 9-11

Insect/Disease Issues:

Root rot (if overwatered)

Scale, aphids, mealy
bug occasional
problems

Nativity:

South Africa

**Location in the
Gardens:**

Conservatory



Landscape Value:

A houseplant in Iowa, grow in the brightest spot possible in your home. Large paddles shaped leaves get 4 feet tall and resemble banana leaves. Unique flowers rise from the base of the clump of leaves once plant is mature enough to flower (2 to 5 years after planting). Fertilize in spring and summer but stop in fall and winter. Excessive fertilization will lead to abundant leaves and few flowers. Plants love moving outside for the warm summer months, but are very intolerant of frost so move them in a soon as frost threatens. Grow in well-drained soil and keep plants on the dry side as they are intolerant of soggy conditions.

Notes:

The long lasting flowers have a hard beak-like sheath from which bright orange sepals and bluish petals fan out giving the flower the appearance of a bird's head and beak. The flower's hard sheath forms a perfect perch for sunbirds which pollinate the flowers.

Months of Interest:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec