

Antplant 'Myrmecodia beccarii' (Antp25b)

Myrmecodia beccarii

€ 18.00

Few plants have adapted as well to co-existence with an animal species. The base of the swollen stem develops hollows or chambers which are invaded by the golden ant. This ant plant grows high up in trees where nutrients are scarce. It is endemic to the tropical mangroves of northern Australia.



Plant type:



plant

Place:



indoor

Adult width:



80 cm

Light:



full light

Watering:



normal

Araflora info



non-edible

Product info

Myrmecodia beccarii plays host to two types of creatures in its swollen tuberous stem. As well as being colonised by ants, it is used by a butterfly which lays its eggs on the plant. The ants carry the eggs inside the plant because they smell like ant's eggs. The ant plant produces very small white flowers in the axil of its large, shiny leaf petioles. Once the flowers have finished, they turn into red berries. It grows to a height of roughly 80 cm.

Height:

15 cm



Width:

10 cm



Adult height:

< 5 cm



Adult width:

80 cm



Flower colour:

white



Flower period:

all year



Product:

plant



Plant type:

plant



Plant type:

antplant



Growth habit:

epiphytical



Growth rate:

normal



Araflora info:

non-edible



Araflora info:

special



Natural habitat:

South-East Asia



Altitude range:

0-1500 m



Plantcare

Ants are not essential for this species to thrive. *Myrmecodia beccarii* is used to tropical conditions which can be replicated in the home by placing the plant in partial shade. The temperature in a greenhouse should be around 26°C. The plant will be damaged if it exceeds or falls below. For the best possible growth, humidity needs to be around 75%. The best potting mix consists of a mixture of peat and coconut fibre. You can find both and many other materials in the 'Plant accessories' section. *Myrmecodia beccarii* needs watering regularly but it must not be left standing in water. In other words it needs to be in a pot that drains well. Allow the potting mix to dry out in between watering. Promote growth by adding a small amount of fertiliser once a week. If *Myrmecodia beccarii* becomes too big, it can be pruned.

Care: easy		Place: indoor	
Place: artificial lighting		Light: full light	
Light: semi sun		Artificial light height: 20-40 cm	
Fertilize: little		Maintenance: can be pruned	
Watering: normal		Watering tips: free draining mixture	
Watering tips: not standing in water		Watering tips: water spraying	
Soil type: antplant		Air humidity at day: 60-80%	
Air humidity at night: 80-100%		Air movement: normal	
Temperature < 15 °C		Day temperature 20-30 °C	
Night temperature 12-18 °C		Temperature max: 35 °C	
Temperature min: 15 °C		Soil ph: <6-7>	
Soil type: peat/cocos		Repotting: after 2 years	