

Tradescantia spathacea

Scientific classification

Kingdom	: Plantae
Clade	: Angiosperms
Order	: Commelinales
Family	: Commelinaceae
Genus	: <i>Tradescantia</i>
Species	: <i>T. spathacea</i>



Description

Tradescantia spathacea, the boat lily or Moses-in-the-cradle, is a herb in the Commelinaceae family. *Tradescantia spathacea* has fleshy rhizomes and rosettes of waxy lance-shaped leaves. Leaves are dark to metallic green above, with glossy purple underneath. These will reach up to 0.30 m (1 ft) long by 76 mm (3 in) wide. They are very attractive foliage plants that will reach 0.30 m (1 ft) tall. They are hardy in USDA zones 9-12 and are also grown as ornamental houseplants. Linear leaves with purple undersides are arranged radially. Flowers are axillary, white, inside pair of boat-shaped bracts.

Uses

The flower is used medicinally for the treatment of dysentery, enterorrhagia and hemoptysis. Medicinally, the plant is used for colds, sore throat, whooping cough, nasal bleeding, and also as an anti-inflammatory. Also used in the treatment of AIDS, Anti-cancer Activity, Lymphocyte Proliferative Activity, Anti-Tuberculosis Activity, Anti-Bacterial activity, Antiviral Activity, antioxidant etc.