

May & June Bloomer: Blood Lily



In South Florida, inflorescence are produced with few or no leaves.
Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida, 26 May

Blood Lily (*Scadoxus multiflorus*)

Origin: West and East Tropical Africa

Zone: 9A—12 (Minimum 20°F)

Growth Rate: Medium

Typical Height: 18 to 24 inches

Light Requirements: Low to medium

Drought Tolerance: Medium

Salt Tolerance: Low

Soil Requirements: Acid

Nutritional Requirements: Medium

Plant Type: Herbaceous perennial

Flower Color: Red

Flowering Season: Late spring; early summer

Propagation: Division

Common Uses: Specimen plant; containers; beds

Human Hazards: Poisonous

Major Problems: Fungal leaf spot

Additional Notes: Must dry off in winter; partial shade best



Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida, 26 May



Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida, late May



Growing in full sun. Flagaman, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, late May



Spent inflorescence and fruit development. Flagaman, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, late May



Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida, mid October

Blood lily, *Scadoxus multiflorus*, blooms dependably in Lee County in late May. It begins flowering at the end of winter-spring dormancy at which time leaves are not fully extended. The inflorescence is a globular head of radiating red filaments. Blood lily is recommended for part sun to bright filtered light, but I have seen it growing in full sun in Jamaica. Keep it moist when actively growing and somewhat dry during cool-season dormancy. It is slow to spread. Leaves are strap-shaped, in a basal whorl.

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