



Gazania rigens



Genus: Gazania
Family: Asteraceae
Order: Asterales
Class: Magnoliopsida
Phylum: Angiosperms

Key Facts:

Toxicity: Non-toxic to humans and pets.
Invasiveness: Generally not considered invasive, but can spread quickly in favorable conditions.
Plant Type: Perennial herbaceous plant.
Lifespan: Several years, though often grown as an annual in colder climates.

Characteristics:

Plant Height: Typically 15-30 cm.
Spread: Can spread 30-45 cm wide.
Leaf Color: Green to gray-green, sometimes with a silvery sheen.
Bloom Time: Blooms from late spring through summer.
Flower Size: 5-8 cm in diameter.
Flower Color: Bright and vibrant colors including yellow, orange, red, and pink, often with contrasting centers.

Distribution:

Origin: Native to South Africa.

Habitat: Found in grasslands and open areas.

Care:

Difficulty: Low; Gazania is generally easy to care for.

Toughness: Quite hardy; tolerates drought and poor soils well.

Maintenance: Low; occasional deadheading and watering needed.

Watering: Water regularly during the growing season but allow the soil to dry out between waterings. Reduce watering in winter.

Pruning: Light pruning can be done to remove spent flowers and encourage new blooms. Cut back in early spring if needed.

Propagation: Can be propagated by seeds, division, or cuttings.

Repotting: Repot only when the plant becomes root-bound or to refresh soil. Typically done every 2-3 years.

Conditions:

Temperature: Can tolerate temperatures from 5°C to 30°C (41°F to 86°F). Frost-sensitive.

Hardiness Zone: USDA Zones 9-11.

Sun Requirements: Prefers full sun; thrives with at least 6 hours of direct sunlight daily.

Soil Type: Prefers well-drained soil; can tolerate poor soil conditions.

Use: Ornamental plant for ground cover, borders, rock gardens, container planting, and erosion control.

Location: Thrives in full sun with well-drained, sandy or loamy soil.

Pests and Diseases: Generally pest-resistant. Watch for aphids and fungal diseases, especially in humid conditions.

