

## Tips for Success

**Water:** Water your plants immediately after planting and ensure that soil stays moist throughout the growing season. This is a plant that is generally difficult to overwater. They also love to be fed with fertilizer on a regular basis.

**Ideal Growing Site:** Elephant Ears are tropical plants that produce spectacular foliage that resembles the ears of an elephant. If you live in very warm regions, they prefer to be grown in locations that offer afternoon shade. For cooler climates with shorter summers, they may be grown in full sun. Wherever you decide to plant them, make sure they will be able to get sufficient water to support their root system.

**Where to Plant:** These stunning plants are suitable to be grown all over the garden. If planted directly in the garden, make sure to give them room to grow as they are very fast growers that produce enormous foliage. Try planting with other tropical looking plants such as hardy banana, Canna lily, and hardy hibiscus. They are showstoppers so give them a location where their beauty can be truly appreciated. They are excellent container grown plants as well.



## Roberta's Gardens

### PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



**Giant Elephant Ears**  
*Colocasia esculenta*

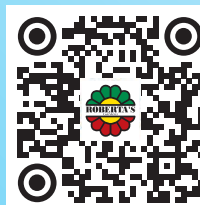
We aren't happy if you aren't happy. If you have any questions regarding your order please call us at **1-765-525-4065** during the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm EST.

You can email questions to us at: [customerservice@robertasinc.com](mailto:customerservice@robertasinc.com).

If your bulbs, cuttings, etc. do not sprout, or your plant dies within 90 days from the date of shipment, we will send you a replacement free of charge. We cannot accept responsibility for losses due to extreme weather or neglect. Simply call us at the above toll free number or fill out the plant replacement form on our website at [RobertasUniqueGardens.com](http://RobertasUniqueGardens.com).

Roberta's will replace it with a similar or comparable plant at no charge. If your replacement is not available or it is too late in the season to ship, it will ship the following year.

*Annual and Tropical Plants*




**Roberta's Unique Gardens**  
P.O. Box 368, Waldron, IN 46182  
Monday – Friday 8:30<sup>AM</sup> – 4:30<sup>PM</sup> EST

**RobertasUniqueGardens.com**

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## Quick Reference

 **Plant Type:** Tropical

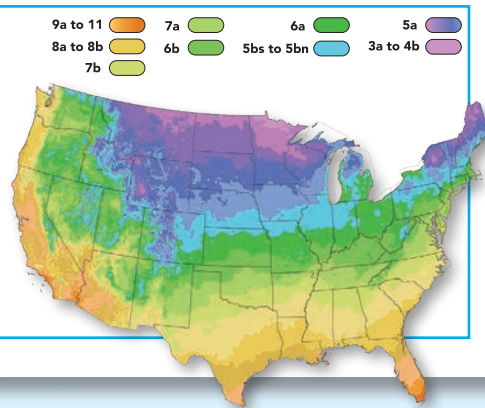
 **Light/Sun:** Full to Partial Sun

 **Mature Height:** 3-5'

 **Mature Spread:** 3'

 **Bloom Time:** n/a

 **USDA Hardiness Zones:** 8 to 11



## Plant Caretaking

**Upon Arrival:** Please take bulbs out of the box immediately and remove any shipping materials from around the plants. If you are unable to plant your bulbs right away, store in a cool, dry area for up to 3 weeks.

**Planting Depth & Spacing:** Dig a hole that is about 8-10" deep. Place the bulb in the hole and pack soil back in, ensuring the bulb is totally covered with soil. In the garden, space plants about 2-3 feet apart.

**Potted Plants:** Make sure your container has holes to allow excess water to drain. You may plant one bulb in a 12-18" container. Or you may plant multiple bulbs together in a larger pot. It is ok if the bulb is planted near the bottom of the pot.

**Soil Preparation:** If your soil is clayish, amend it with standard potting mix to improve drainage. For container grown plants, any normal potting mix is fine.

**Watering:** Elephant Ear plants prefer to stay moist during the growing season. Give your bulb a nice watering upon planting and continue to water around your plant whenever the soil begins to look dry. It is important that you don't let the soil completely dry out, especially when it is just getting started.

**Fertilizer:** Use Roberta's Bounty a couple weeks after planting and then once or twice a month all summer long.

**Pet Considerations:** Ensure your pets do not consume plants.

**Winter Care:** Elephant Ears can handle winter temperatures down 35F. In autumn if left exposed to a cold temperatures, the foliage on your plants will yellow or brown. If your winters are cold, bring your plant indoors during the winter months and store in a dry area. For plants in containers you may bring the entire pot indoors and keep quite dry during the winter. Or if in the ground, cut the foliage back to soil line. Then dig the bulb up and store in wood shavings or peat moss until spring.

## Planting Steps

**Step 1** Remove bulb(s) from their box and take off other packing materials. Open your box outside or somewhere you don't mind getting messy.

**Step 2** Choose a large container or location in the garden that will get at least a half day of sun. In warmer climate partial sun locations are ideal, in cooler climates full sun is best.

**Step 3** Dig a hole 8-10" deep and place your bulb in the soil with the pointed up facing upward. Cover the hole with extra soil ensure the bulb is completely covered.

**Step 4** Give your newly planted bulb a nice drink of water, ensuring that all of the surrounding soil is completely saturated. Colocasia prefer to stay moist but not soggy while they are starting to grow, so make sure the soil surrounding the bulb does not completely dry out. You should start to see sprouts of growth within 2-4 weeks.

