



FICUS ALLI PLANT • FICUS MACLELLANDII • FICUS AMSTEL

The Ficus Alii Tree, or Amstel King as it is sometimes called, is a large plant that originally came from various areas in Asia. The Ficus Alii was first grown commercially in Hawaii where it got the Hawaiian name "Alii" which means "king". Although a Ficus Alii is closely related to the Ficus Benjamin, the Alii variety is much more tolerant and forgiving; it rarely sheds leaves, tolerates lower light, and allows you to move it around without going into shock. A Ficus Alii does grow about 25% slower than a Ficus Benjamin.

The leaves of a Ficus Alii are quite different than those of the usual ficus trees we are familiar with. The leaves are medium green, long (3"-10"), narrow, willow-like, and thick. The newer King Alii ficus plants have wider leaves than the original Ficus Alii trees. New growth is a pretty reddish bronze color until the leaves mature to a natural green color. If you want a ficus tree in your home or office, a Ficus Alii is a great alternative to the finicky Ficus Benjamin.

CARE

LIGHT

Ficus Alii do well in bright indirect light; however, they can survive in medium light. The lower the light level, the longer a Ficus Alii takes to produce new leaves. Rotate weekly to maintain the plant's beautiful shape.

WATER

Water a Ficus Alii when the top 1" of the soil has dried out. If the plant is in a container larger than 12," wait until the top 2" of soil has dried out. Water well so that excess water drains out the drip holes in the bottom of the pot. Immediately empty excess water and do not allow a Ficus Alii to sit in water. New growth turns black and green leaves fall off from over - watering. Leaves become brown and crunchy, drop off, and may turn yellow when the plant needs water.

FERTILIZER

Feed monthly with a well-balanced liquid fertilizer when the plant is actively growing. It is not necessary to feed a Ficus Alii during the winter and fall. Avoid using any plant foods that contain the chemical boron.

TEMPERATURE

Unlike the Ficus Benjamin, Ficus Alii plants are much more tolerant of temperature changes. Although a Ficus Alii prefers temperatures between 60°-85° F, these plants can survive in temperatures as low as 45° for a short time.

HUMIDITY

A Ficus Alii prefers medium humidity, but still grows well in basic household humidity.

FLOWERING

These plants produce flowers and berries that should be removed as soon as they appear to promote healthy leave growth.

PESTS

Whitefly, mealy bugs, scale and thrips are plant pests that can attack a Ficus Alii so use a household safe insecticide as needed.

DISEASES

Botrytis or gray mold are plant diseases that occur when the leaves of a Ficus Alii are kept too wet. Anthracnose is another plant disease that can be a problem.

SOIL

Use a good, all purpose, well- aerated potting soil.

POT SIZE

The roots of Ficus Alii plants grow very slowly, so don't be in a rush to move the plant to a larger pot. Be sure the roots of your Ficus tree have filled the entire bottom of its pot before moving the plant to a larger container. Ficus Alii houseplants like to be root- bound.

PRUNING

Prune a ficus during the winter to maintain the shape of the plant.

PROPAGATION

Propagate a Ficus Alii using branch cuttings.