

## Acorus Calamus, Vekhand - Plant



Acorus calamus, commonly known as Sweet Flag or Calamus, is a grass-like plant useful for wet or moist areas, but it will also grow in regular garden soil with adequate moisture. It has wide, green, sword-like foliage, which rise directly from branched rhizomes.

Rating: Not Rated Yet

### Price

Sales price R 299

Discount

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Description

### Description for Acorus Calamus, Vekhand

The scented leaves and more strongly scented rhizomes have traditionally been used medicinally and to make fragrances, and the dried and powdered rhizome has been used as a substitute for ginger, cinnamon and nutmeg.

Its flowers are insignificant, but its leaves are aromatic and resemble the foliage of an iris. Sweet flag makes a striking statement at the shallow end of a pool, in a bog garden, or in a marshy woodland area.

Common name	Flower colours	Bloom time	Height	Difficulty
sweet flag, vekhand	Green	Summer	Height: 2.00 to 2.50 feet Spread: 1.50 to 2.00 feet	Easy

### Planting and care

Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade. Grows well in both boggy conditions (including shallow standing water to 9â€• deep) and consistently moist garden soils.

In water gardens, plant rhizomes slightly below the soil surface in moist soils at the waterâ€™s edge or in containers set in shallow water. Rhizomes or existing clumps may also be planted in containers sunk into wet boggy areas to help prevent any possible aggressive spread.

Sunlight

Soil

Water

Temperature

Fertilizer

Full sun to part shade

Needs to grow in water less than 9 inches deep or in very moist soil.

Medium to wet

10 to 38°C

Use a slow release, medium-rate fertilizer

## Caring for Acorus Calamus

Keep evenly moist-wet; prefers moisture, do not allow to dry out. Possible pests: aphids, occasional leaf spot, snails and slugs. Needs to grow in water less than 9 inches deep or in very moist soil. Plant in containers to control spread if desired. Divide every three or four years, at the beginning of the growing season.

## Typical uses of Acorus Calamus

### Special features:

**Medicinal use:** The dried rhizomes of the plant constitute the drug Calamus and are used in medicine.

Due to presence of a volatile oil, Calamus acts as a carminative, that is, it relieves flatulence and feeling of overfullness of stomach, and increase appetite. It is considered a household remedy for a flatulent colic. Due to its essential oil contents, it acts as an expectorant, that is, it promotes flow of bronchial secretions and is useful in diarrhea and dysentery. Calamus also acts as emetic, and larger doses can cause violent vomiting.

## References

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=a634>  
<http://hoffmannursery.com/plants/acorus-calamus/> <http://www.finegardening.com/variegated-sweet-flag-acorus-calamus-%E2%80%98variegatus%E2%80%99>