

**Plant Name:** Canna 'Indica'  
**Common Name:** Indian shot plant

**Plant Type:** Perennial  
**Colour:** Red  
**Height:** 220cm  
**Spread:** 50cm

**Flowering Time:** Flowers from Aug to Oct



**Plant Data (applies to THIS plant only)**

*Canna indica* (also known as saka siri, Indian shot, canna, bandera, chancle, coyol, or platanillo) is a species of the *Canna* genus, belonging to the family Cannaceae, a native of the Caribbean and tropical Americas that is also widely cultivated as a garden plant. It is a perennial growing from 0.5m to 2.5m, depending on the variety. It is hardy to zone 10 and is frost tender. In the northern latitudes it is in flower from August to October, and the seeds ripen in October. The flowers are hermaphrodite.

The seeds are small, globular, black pellets, hard and heavy enough to sink in water. They resemble shotgun pellets giving rise to the plant's common name of Indian Shot. They are widely used for jewellery. The seeds are also used as the mobile elements of the kayamb, a musical instrument from Réunion, as well as the hoshu, a gourd rattle from Zimbabwe, where the seeds are known as "hota" seeds.

A medium sized species; green foliage, oblong shaped, spreading habit; triangular stems, coloured green; spikes of flowers are erect, self-coloured red, staminodes are long and narrow, edges regular, petals red, partial self-cleaning; fertile both ways, self-pollinating and also true to type, capsules globose; rhizomes are thick, up to 3 cm in diameter, coloured purple; tillering is prolific.

Common Name: Indian shot plant  
Genus: *Canna*  
Species: *indica*  
Skill Level: Experienced  
Exposure: Full sun  
Hardiness: Tender  
Soil type: Well-drained/light, Acidic, Chalky/alkaline, Sandy  
Height: 220cm  
Spread: 50cm  
Time to divide plants: March to April  
Flowering period: August to October

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Canna's are perfect for adding a touch of the tropics to the garden. Found growing wild in South America, this plant has lush green foliage and bright red flowers, which appear from mid-summer until mid-autumn. Either grow its rhizomes in containers or plant outside in a sunny spot. Bring indoors before the first frosts and overwinter the rhizomes in barely moist compost in a frost-free place. The following spring, pot up into fresh compost and gradually increase watering.