



SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Brocchinia Acuminata*

COMMON NAME: Bromeliad.

PLACE OF ORIGIN: The Gran Sabana, Venezuela.

GENERAL INFO: *Brocchinia Acuminata* is a Bromeliad from the Gran Sabana, and Tepui regions of Venezuela. Set apart from other species of *Brocchinia* by its distinct appearance, *B. acuminata* is also speculated to be a myrmecophyte, forming symbiotic relationships with colonies of ants whose activities, feces and carcasses all supply the peltate trichomes housed at the bottom of the water reservoir with nutrients.

WATER: *B. acuminata* is considered terrestrial, growing almost exclusively on the ground. Fully saturate the soil once or twice a week, never allowing a full dryback period. Lightly mist the leaves to maintain humidity and **ALWAYS ensure at least some water is maintained in the central reservoir**. This is essential for protecting the large peltate trichomes, (possibly the largest of any carnivorous bromeliad).

SOIL: We use a 60/40 or 70/30 perlite to peat mix for all *Brocchinia*.

CONTAINERS: We prefer terracotta pots up to 12 inches in size for this species. Plastic pots of the same size are also adequate

LIGHT: *B. acuminata* has a tendency to stretch for light, and can sometimes form vine-like structures in low-light situations. Under intense lights the leaves form erect, light green to yellow pointed blades.

FERTILIZATION: We recommend using MAXSEA brand fertilizer for all carnivorous plants, as these sensitive plants respond best to this formulation. The plants will naturally catch pests, and these can be 'fed' to the plant by simply dropping them into the water well. Fertilize once every 2 weeks in spring and summer, and once a month in winter. Never let fertilizer touch flowers!