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## Hummingbird's Lunch Cuphea

***Cuphea 'CUPP1751'***

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 3 feet

Spacing: 30 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

**Description:**

Small, freely branching sub-shrub with unusual, airy, cherry-red and yellow tubular flowers; looks great in mixed container and garden displays; grown as an annual in cooler climates; heat and drought tolerant; tidy, compact rounded habit

**Ornamental Features**

Hummingbird's Lunch Cuphea has cherry red tubular flowers with buttery yellow overtones along the branches from mid spring to mid fall, which are interesting on close inspection. Its small glossy pointy leaves remain dark green in color throughout the year.

**Landscape Attributes**

Hummingbird's Lunch Cuphea is an open multi-stemmed annual with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees, butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Hummingbird's Lunch Cuphea is recommended for the following landscape applications;



*Hummingbird's Lunch Cuphea flowers*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*



*Hummingbird's Lunch Cuphea in bloom*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



*Hummingbird's Lunch Cuphea in bloom*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

**Planting & Growing**

Hummingbird's Lunch Cuphea will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 30 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. To help this plant achive its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Hummingbird's Lunch Cuphea is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.