

## **Billbergia tessmannii**

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Billbergiya - belongs to the family Bromeliaceae. This family is one of the most exotic indoor plants. Among the 46 genera and 2100 species Billbergia can be found as well as earth and rock (growing on rocks) and herbaceous plants. Some of them are located outside areas of tropical America and West Africa.

Reaches a height of 40 - 60 cm and the leaves are erect, narrow-gauge, hard, green, sometimes jagged around the edges, sometimes not. Rosette leaf formation, which is not at all bilbergii is dense. The colors are very attractive. They grow in clusters on long stems upright or drooping, standing above the leaves. Bracts are brightly colored, often with contrasting colors. Bracts are durable. The plant blooms only one time and rarely live more than 3 years. After the overblown usually dies. Prior to that side of the base of the plant appear new rosettes. When they become large enough that they can be separated without injury (13 - 15 cm) must be removed and to wait separately.

Certain types:

Billbergia amoena - with pink and green colors bracts with blue edging

Billbergia nutans - with a strong floral stems and drooping yellowish-green color with blue bracts in bright pink outstanding bracts

Billbergia venezuelana - bracts with pink, white chashkoobrazni leaflets and greenish-yellow color

Billbergia x fantasio - hybrids with large gray-green upright leaves, dotted with cream. Flowering stem is erect, with bracts bright pink and green colors with deep-blue bracts.

Care:

The room needs a strong diffuse light. Temperature: 20-25 ° C in summer, winter, 16-18 ° C. Spraying: plenty - just summer, but during the flowering not spray! (shortening the life of color). Like a high humidity environment.

Fertilizing: Spring, Summer - May to September - 2 weeks. Used for fertilizer or manure bromelii for indoor plants, the dose is 1 / 2 recommended by other plants.

Replanting: it is not necessary. The new plants are planted in garden soil mixed with peat and sand.

Propagation:

- Shoots when they reach a length of 13 - 15 centimeters - the finger - early summer;
- Seeds are placed in a moist mixture of peat, crushed sphagnum moss, perlite, or sand, with added carbon. Germinate at a constant humidity, light and temperature - 25-28 ° C.

Pests:

- Aphids - on top of the list. Damaged leaves turn yellow and die.
- Bromeliad mealy bug - on both sides of leaves. Damaged leaves turn yellow and die.
- Pamukliyka - the plant stops its growth, the leaves gleamed yellow and die. The presence and is a prerequisite for fungal diseases.
- Mite - on both sides of leaves. In damaged leaves appear cobwebs, leaves turn yellow and die.