

About Community in Bloom

Community in Bloom (CIB) is a programme that was launched by the National Parks Board (NParks) in 2005. It aims to nurture a gardening culture among Singaporeans by encouraging and facilitating community gardening efforts. It is also an opportunity to build community bonds and strengthen social resilience in our City in Nature.



Share your love for nature and animals at
#NParksBuzz #AnimalBuzzSG

For more information, visit our website at www.nparks.gov.sg/cib or email us at CommunityInBloom@nparks.gov.sg

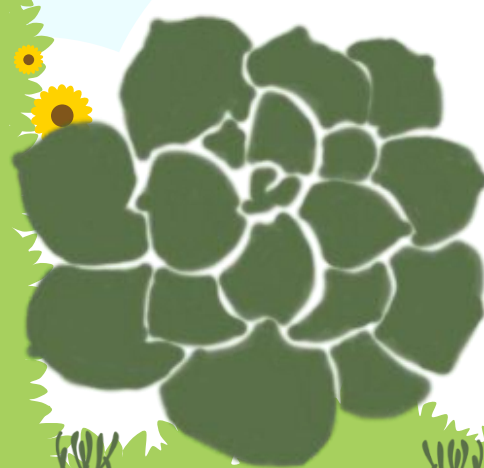
For more information on plants in Singapore, visit NParks Flora & Fauna Web at www.nparks.gov.sg/florafaunaweb

For more gardening resources and tips, visit go.gov.sg/gardening-resources

To learn more about our City in Nature, scan the QR code or visit www.nparks.gov.sg/about-us/city-in-nature



Know 10 Succulents



How to Propagate New Plants

Succulents are a broad group of plants that can store water in their tissue to combat water shortage and reduce water loss. Depending on the species, succulents can be propagated through stem or leaf cuttings. Some can easily be grown from seeds. Plants grown through vegetative propagation take a shorter time to mature. They also retain all the characteristic of the parent (original) plant.

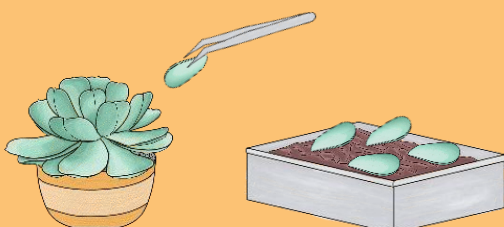
Watering

Use a squeeze bottle to water only specific areas, especially for small container gardens. Avoid watering the leaves of succulents like Echeverias because water can collect in their grooves and cause these plants to rot.



Leaf Cuttings

Gently remove a leaf close to the stem or base of the succulent. Allow it to dry without direct sunlight until the cut or plucked end hardens (callouses). When planting, place it flat on the soil surface and water slightly once every three days. Once roots start to form at the cut end, cover this part of the leaf with some soil.



Here are some care tips and simple propagation methods:

Stem Cuttings

Cut a mature stem and remove some of the leaves. Place the cutting in soil that drains well.



Plants that can be grown from stem cuttings include Elephant Bush and String of Beads.

Aloe vera

Scientific Name
Aloe vera

Plant Characteristics
Aloe vera is a succulent herb that usually grows up to 0.3 m. It has long fleshy leaves arranged in a rosette.



Cultivation and Plant Care
Aloe vera should be planted in well-draining soil. It prefers full sun, though it can tolerate light shade, and requires moderate watering. It should be watered at the soil level if possible, to avoid water collecting on the leaves which can cause fungal disease. This plant can be propagated by separating the offshoots.

Uses
The leaves produce a gel that is widely used for medicinal and cosmetic purposes. The jelly-like flesh of the leaves is also edible, and often used in beverages and desserts.

Burro's Tail

Scientific Name
Sedum morganianum

Plant Characteristics
Burro's Tail is a trailing succulent with fleshy stems and leaves. Its long and pendulous stems can reach up to 1.2 m long.



Cultivation and Plant Care
Burro's Tail should be planted in well-draining soil. It prefers partial sun and moderate watering. The leaves detach easily when moved. It is propagated by stem and leaf cuttings.

Uses
This plant can be included as part of a succulent dish garden. Its long stems also make it attractive to grow in hanging baskets.

Elephant Bush

Scientific Name
Portulacaria afra

Plant Characteristics
Elephant Bush is a succulent shrub that grows up to 5 m tall in the wild and 2 m tall in cultivation. It has small and fleshy leaves with rounded edges, and stems that are brown to reddish brown.



Cultivation and Plant Care
Elephant Bush can be planted in a variety of soil types, from a well-draining fertile soil to dry and infertile soil. It thrives in both partial and full sun, and requires moderate watering. It can be propagated by stem cuttings.

Uses
Some hobbyists create bonsai using this plant. It can also be included as part of a succulent dish garden.

Fairy Washboard

Scientific Name
Haworthiopsis limifolia

Plant Characteristics
Fairy Washboard has a rosette leaf arrangement which can reach up to 10 cm wide. It has wart-like protrusions on the leaf surface.



Cultivation and Plant Care
Fairy washboard should be planted in soil that drains well. It grows well under partial sunlight or near a bright window. It requires moderate watering but prefers more water when actively growing. Ensure that there is good air flow to dry out the soil in between waterings. It can be propagated by separating the offshoots or via seeds.

Uses
It is good for planting in containers, either on its own or as part of a succulent dish garden.

Lawyer's Tongue

Scientific Name
Gasteria obliqua

Plant Characteristics
Lawyer's Tongue is a succulent shrub with leaves that can grow up to 25 cm long. Its leaves have a cream-spotted pattern. Its leaf tips tend to turn slightly red if exposed to full sunlight.



Cultivation and Plant Care
Lawyer's Tongue should be planted in well-draining soil. It grows well under partial sunlight or near a bright window. Water it moderately throughout the year, and more frequently when it is actively growing. Ensure that there is good airflow to dry out the soil before watering again. It can be propagated by separating the offshoots or leaf cuttings.

Uses
It is good for planting in containers, either on its own or as part of a succulent dish garden.

Mexican Hen and Chicks

Scientific Name
Echeveria spp. and cultivars

Plant Characteristics
Mexican Hen and Chicks grows as a short rosette that measures up to 15 cm across. Its leaves are fleshy and soft. It looks similar to plants from the *Sempervivum* genus which have thinner leaves and hair-like structures along the leaf blades.



Cultivation and Plant Care
Mexican Hens and Chicks should be planted in well-draining media. It prefers partial sun with moderate watering. Allow the soil to dry completely before watering again. Having a layer of gravel on top of the soil help keep the leaves dry and prevent rot. This plant can be propagated by leaf cuttings.

Uses
It is good for planting in containers, either on its own or as part of a succulent dish garden.

Mexican Sedum

Scientific Name
Sedum mexicanum

Plant Characteristics
Mexican Sedum is a creeping succulent shrub that can grow up to 10 cm tall. It has bright green fleshy leaves.



Cultivation and Plant Care
Mexican Sedum should be planted in shallow soil that drains well. It grows well near bright windows and requires little water. It is easily propagated by stem cuttings.

Uses
It is useful as a groundcover as it creates dense mats that spread easily over the surface of the ground.

Mother of Thousands

Scientific Name
Kalanchoe daigremontiana

Plant Characteristics
Mother of Thousands is a succulent shrub that can grow up to 1 m tall. It has fleshy leaves, and aerial plantlets develop along the margins. This plant may develop adventitious roots from its main stalk which allows for vertical shoots to grow from it.



Cultivation and Plant Care
Mother of Thousands can be planted in a variety of soil types, from a well-draining fertile soil to dry and infertile soil. This plant thrives in both partial and full sun, and requires little water. It can be propagated by stem or leaf cuttings, or by the aerial plantlets growing on the leaves.

Uses
It is good for planting in containers, either on its own or as part of a succulent dish garden.

String of Beads

Scientific Name
Curio herreanus

Plant Characteristics
String of beads is a trailing succulent with thick spherical fleshy leaves that are arranged along its trailing stems. Each leaf has a transparent 'window' that allows light to penetrate into the leaf interior to allow for photosynthesis while minimising water loss.



Cultivation and Plant Care
String of Beads should be planted in well-draining soil. It grows well under partial sunlight or near a bright window, and requires little water. It can be propagated by stem cuttings.

Uses
Its long pendulous stems make it an attractive plant for growing in hanging baskets.

Walking Sanseveria

Scientific Name
Dracaena pinguicula

Plant Characteristics
Walking Sanseveria is a slow-growing succulent shrub that can grow up to 0.3 m wide. When young, its thick and fleshy leaves are arranged in a rosette. As the plant matures, the leaf arrangement changes to two rows opposite each other. The leaves are bluish to grey with reddish margins.



Cultivation and Plant Care
Walking Sanseveria should be planted in a shallow soil that drains well. This plant prefers partial sun and little water. It can be propagated by separating its offshoots.

Uses
It is good for planting in containers, either on its own or as part of a succulent dish garden.