

Iris germanica

'Thornbird'

Bearded Iris

**1997 American Iris Society
Dykes Medal Winner**



Courtesy Nancy LaPolla

PLANT DESCRIPTION

Plant Type: Perennial (rhizomatous)

Height / Width: 3 ft. H x 3 ft. W

Plant Form: Upright Fan

Flower / Fruit: See Photo

Leaf: Attractive fans of flat, sword-like foliage

Native To: Garden hybrid

GROWING REQUIREMENTS

Sunset Zones: 1-24

Soil: Tolerant of many soils if drainage is good

Water: At least once per week deep watering during blooming period then every 10 days after bloom

Sun: Full sun to afternoon shade

Care and Pruning: Set out Sept–Oct, 1-2 ft. apart with tops barely above surface. Feed with green sand or high phosphorus fertilizer in early spring (Feb–March). Lift and divide every 3-4 years (in Aug–Oct), discarding old ones

GARDEN USE Perennial beds, mass plantings