

# Arkansas Diamonds Plants: 'Cannova Bronze Orange' Canna Lily (*Canna x generalis* 'Bronze Orange')

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## Quick Facts:

**Recommended Use:** Mass planting, seasonal screen, accent planting, large containers

**Exposure:** Full Sun

**Mature Size:** 30-48 inches tall, 14-20 inches wide

**Growth Habit:** Upright, clumping, architectural

**Season of interest:** Summer through fall

**Maintenance Level:** Low to Moderate

**Water Needs:** Moderate; prefers consistent moisture

## Arkansas Performance

**Highlights:** Strong heat tolerance, sustained flowering through peak summer temperatures, durable bronze foliage, reliable performance in high humidity

## Summary

'Cannova® Bronze Orange' is a compact, floriferous canna lily distinguished by its deep bronze foliage and vivid orange blooms. Selected for its strong garden performance and consistent

*Canna x generalis* 'Bronze Orange'



flowering, this cultivar maintains color intensity even during prolonged periods of Arkansas summer heat.

Across Arkansas landscapes, this canna performs reliably in full sun where soils remain evenly moist and well-drained. Plants maintain foliage quality and continual flowering through extended stretches of temperatures at or above 90° F. The bronze foliage shows good resistance to sun scorch when adequate moisture is provided.

Compared to traditional taller cannas, the Cannova® series offers a more uniform and manageable height while preserving the bold, tropical aesthetic associated with

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the species. The upright habit and coarse foliage provide strong structural contrast in ornamental beds while the vibrant blooms deliver long-lasting seasonal color from early summer into fall.

### Arkansas Performance Notes:

‘Cannova® Bronze Orange’ is well-suited to Arkansas’s combination of heat, humidity, and intense solar radiation. In urban settings and areas with reflected heat from pavement or structures, plants continue to flower consistently when irrigation is maintained.

In USDA Zone 8a and warmer regions of the state, rhizomes may overwinter in well-drained soils with protective mulch. In Northern Arkansas, plants perform reliably as summer annuals, but for perennial use in Northern Arkansas, rhizomes should be dug after first frost and stored in a cool, dry location over winter.

### Cultural Requirements:

- Plant in full sun for optimal flowering and foliage color.
- Prefers fertile, well-drained soils with consistent moisture.
- Incorporate organic matter at planting to improve soil structure and water retention.
- Avoid prolonged saturated soil conditions.

### Growth and Landscape Use:

- Space plants 12-18 inches apart to accommodate mature spread and allow airflow.
- Hardy in USDA zones 8-11; treat as a summer annual in Zone 7.
- Highly effective in mass plantings, seasonal screens, large containers, and layered ornamental beds.

- Provides strong vertical structure and coarse texture in mixed plantings.
- Incorporate organic matter at planting to improve soil structure and water retention.
- Avoid prolonged saturated soil conditions.

The bronze foliage creates contrast against green-leaved annuals and perennials, making it especially impactful when planted in groups where foliage color and bloom intensity can be fully appreciated.

### Care and Maintenance:

- Incorporate a slow-release fertilizer at planting to support uniform growth.
- Provide regular irrigation during establishment and extended dry periods.
- Remove spent flower stalks to encourage continued bloom production.
- Apply at least 3 inches of mulch to moderate soil temperature, conserve moisture, and prevent weed growth.

While generally durable, cannas may experience occasional pest or disease pressures in Arkansas landscapes. Canna leaf rollers can cause rolled or tattered foliage, and Japanese beetles may feed on foliage and flowers during peak summer activity. Spider mites may develop during hot, dry conditions and especially in drought-stressed plantings. Fungal leaf spots can occur during prolonged wet weather or in areas with limited airflow. Proper spacing, consistent irrigation without waterlogging, sanitation, and removal of damaged foliage help maintain plant vigor and appearance.

