

## **Moses-in-a-Boat**

Also called Moses-in-the-Cradle or Purple Leaved Spiderwort

*(Rhoeo spathacea)*

Moses-in-a-boat's sword-like leaves are tinged purple underneath and support spathes (blooms) at the axils (where leaves and stem meet). The plant's name comes from the resemblance the axils and spathes have to boats with tiny white bundles. The plant, though, is grown mainly for its foliage.

### **Light**

Expose to medium (bright indirect) light. Place outside in summer in the partial shade of an overhang.

### **Water**

Keep evenly moist at all times, but avoid sogginess, which causes rot. Mist often. To keep leaves from rolling up, raise humidity.

### **Temperature**

Maintain high temperatures (to low 80s) for best growth. Plant tolerates average temperatures.

### **Comments**

Grow one plant per pot for best effect. Pot up when partially root-bound. During active growth, feed every 14 days with mild solution. Rinse foliage monthly. Propagate by offsets or by the seedlings that often sprout up around plants in ideal settings, like greenhouses.