



Plant of the Quarter (April – June 2009)

Calathea musaïca



Location: A small patch of this calathea is nestled in the upper lawn area, *manka* (towards the mountain) of the Acanthaceae (shrimp plant) island. The leaves are camouflaged amongst other variegated plants, so look closely!

Family: Marantaceae

Type: Herbaceous

Height: 12-18 inches

Leaf: Glossy arrow-shaped leaves with a network of right angle veins

Growing conditions: Partial to full shade

Originally from Espirito Santo, Brazil. This calathea, in the prayer leaf plant family, is an excellent choice as a ground cover. The attractive foliage, reminiscent of a DNA pattern, lasts long as a cut leaf and would be indispensable for flower arrangers.

