

To Be Added As An Additional Taxa Under *Amaranthus tricolor* In *Landscape Plants For Texas And Environs, Third Edition.*

Alternanthera ficoidea (L.) R. Brown ex J.J. Roemer & J.A. Schultes ***Alternanthera***

(*Alternanthera amoena*, *Alternanthera bettzickiana*, *Achyranthes bettzickiana*)

- C Also known as Calico Plant, Copperleaf, Copper Alternanthera, Fountain Plant, Garden Alternanthera, Joseph's Coat, Parrotleaf, Shoofly Joyweed, Snowball, or Tampala; Alternanthera is an erect to spreading herbaceous tropical perennial, 60 to 120 tall, that is used in much of Texas as a herbaceous annual; this species is valued primarily for its fine textured green, yellow, pink, to red foliage that responds well to shearing; leaves are small, ½ to 1 long, and rhombic to lanceolate with a tiny bristle tip; flowers are ornamentally insignificant.
- C Alternanthera are tough durable plants that can be used in detail and carpet bedding designs in full sun to mostly shade in our region; low to moderate fertility is probably best; plants can be used as a herbaceous perennial in USDA zones 9(8b) through 11 and as an annual in cooler climates; this species has relatively few problems with pests or diseases.

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