

# Brighamia insignis

## CARE GUIDE

Known as Ālula in Hawaiian, this succulent is nearly extinct in the wild due to predation and habitat loss. It's now a popular house plant thanks to conservation efforts and horticultural interests. Add Brighamia to your garden or house plant collection for a unique focal point and conversation starter.

Sun	Water	Habitat
partial shade to full sun	Good drainage and soil aeration are essential; water when potting medium has dried	wind and salt tolerant; native to the island of Kaua'i



*Brighamia insignis* - Ālula

Ālula's unique trunk and foliage have led some enthusiasts to refer to the plant as 'cabbage on a stick' or 'Hawaiian Palm.' Long, tubular flowers appear in September and October in the wild but flowers can be induced in cultivation and will sometimes bloom 2 - 4 times a year.

*Brighamia insignis* was once found on the windswept sea cliffs of Kaua'i but only one individual is thought to exist today. Hope remains for it's sister species, *Brighamia rockii*. Efforts to propagate and outplant the species are currently underway at our Conservation Nursery on Kaua'i and Kahanu Garden on Maui.

01.

Ālula responds well to regular applications of foliar fertilizer or applications of slow release fertilizer twice a year. Apply a balanced foliar fertilizer mixed at half strength twice a month.

02.

Slugs and snails can devour leaves and the tips of all the stems in no time, killing the plant. Spider mites are also a very serious pest for alula. Miticides are available at your local garden supplier

National Tropical Botanical Garden  
members@ntbg.org  
(808) 332-7324

Explore more resources:  
[ntbg.org/gardening](https://ntbg.org/gardening)

