ANIGOZANTHUS
Kangaroo Paws

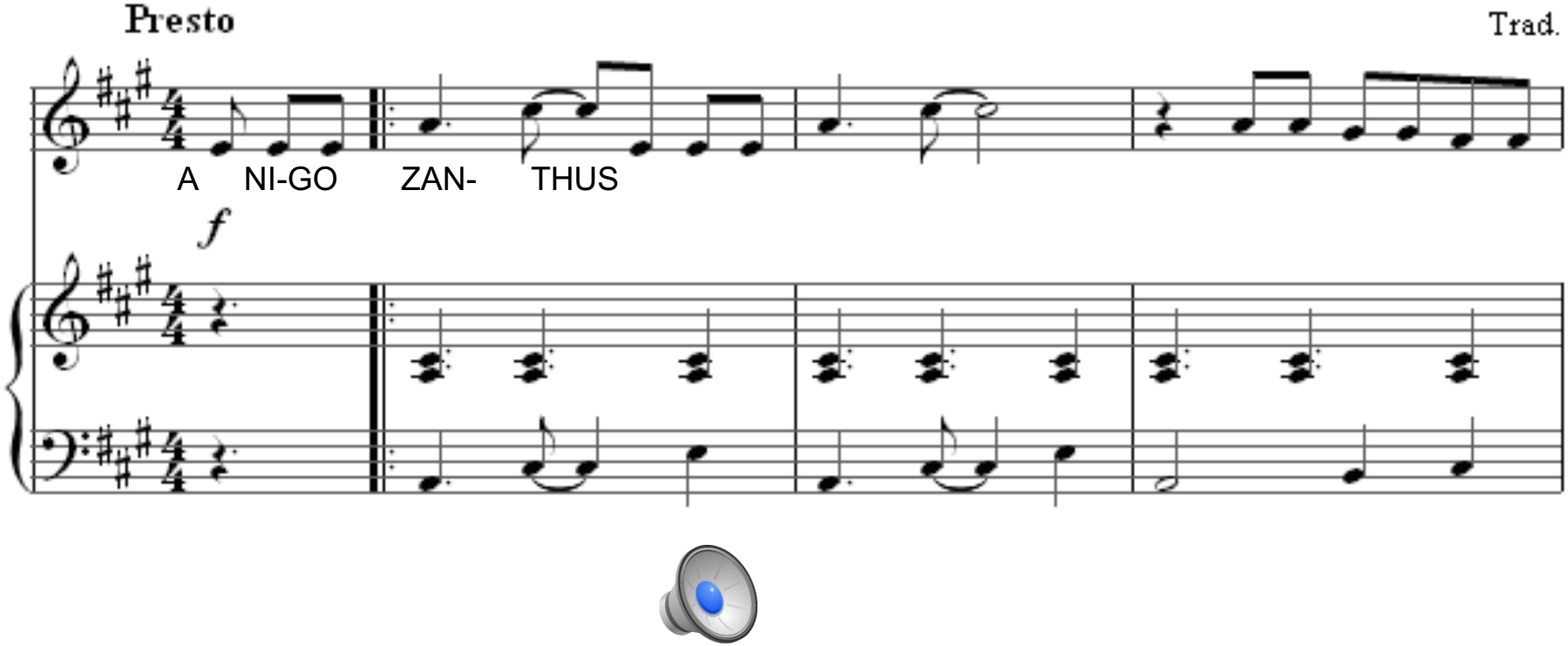
Floral emblem of Australia in 1960

Family
Haemodoraceae

Anigozanthus manglesii

ANIGOZANTHUS

to the tune of La Cucaracha



Anigozanthus manglesii

11 species in the genus Anigozanthus

Found in open forests in South-western Australia

Likes Sandy soil

Flowers from August to November in Australia - In US flowers spring through summer

Has grey-green leaves with hairy green flowers on reddish stems up to 2-1/2 feet tall

Anigozanthus flavidus

Known as the evergreen or tall kangaroo paw

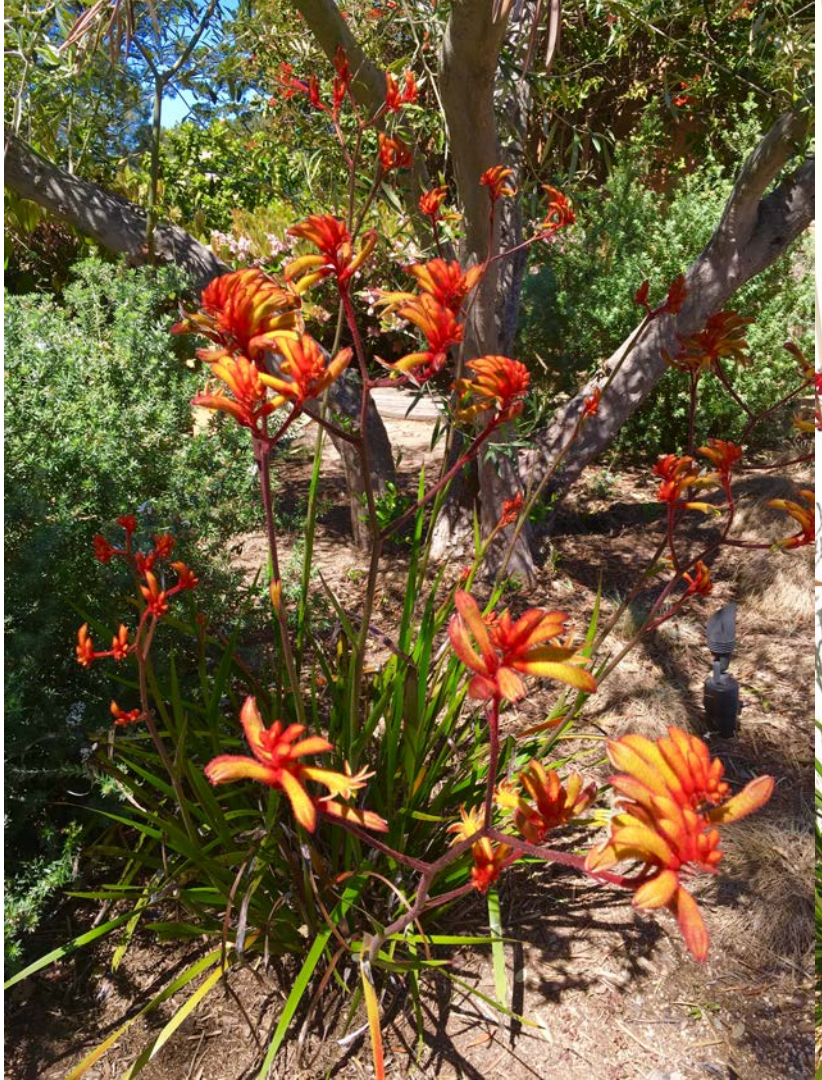
Has a clump of narrow iris-like leaves

Masses of tubular curved densely hairy flowers usually yellow but can be orange, red, pink or green

Most widely cultivated because it is hardy in many climate zones

Easily grown. Tolerates wet soil. Grows in clay and sand.

Grows well in Southern California



GARDEN TOUR

Cultivation of Kangaroo Paws

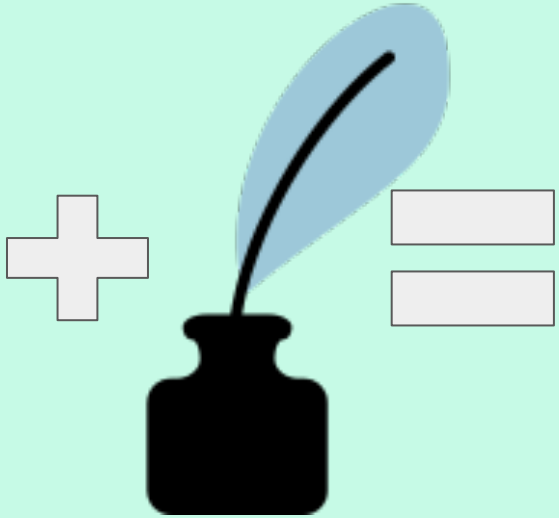
Plant in a sunny and open position in the garden.

Provide excellent drainage.

Provide regular water in dry summer climates, but always with good drainage.

Fertilize, but not heavily, and keep Phosphorus on the low side.

Needs annual clean up: After the flowering period, remove the old leaves down to as low as possible. Fans only flower once and need to be cleaned out at the end of a season. Take care not to damage emerging fans.



I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD

BLACK INK DISEASE

Disease is primarily attributable to fungus, Altenaria alternata.

Species of Anigozanthus differ in susceptibility— the anigozanthus manglesii is usually KILLED.
Anigozanthus flavidus is highly resistant to black ink disease and also to rust fungus.

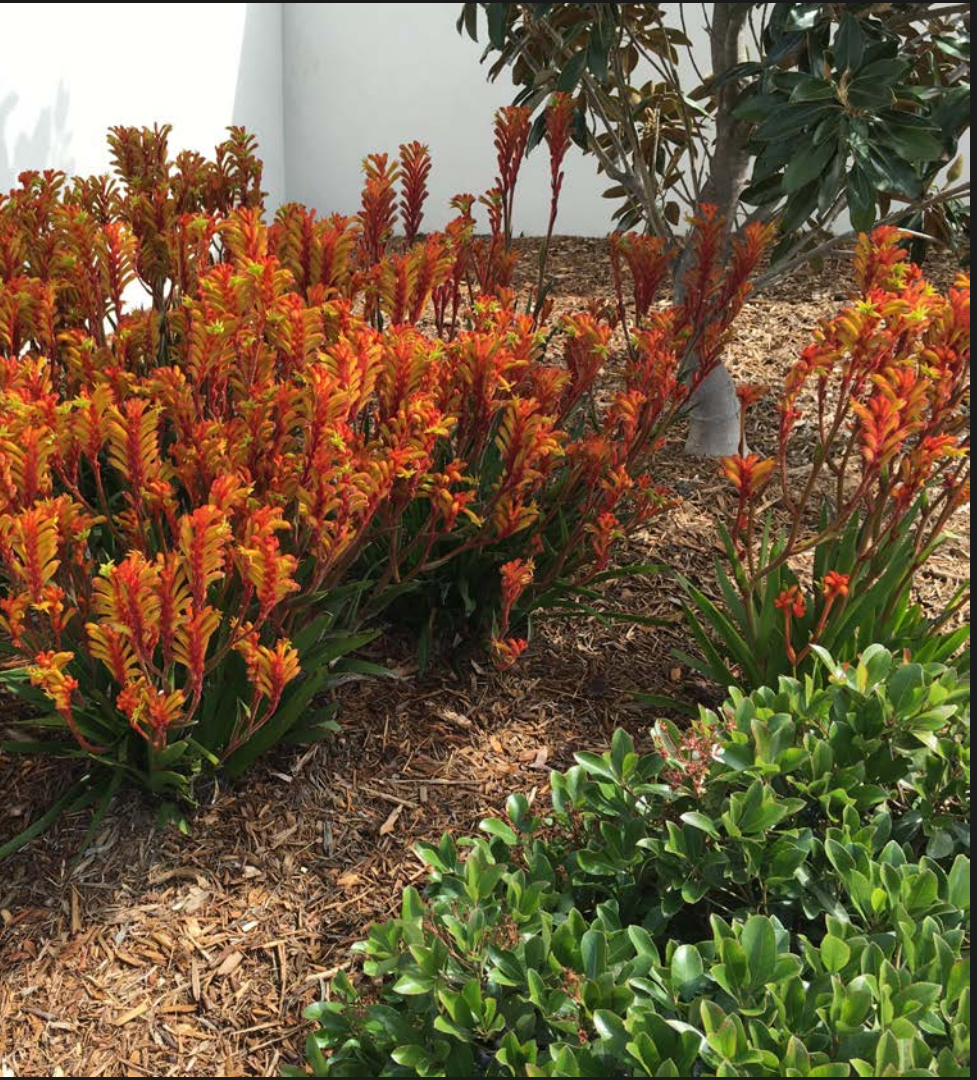
Symptoms vary from brown sunken lesions with some chlorosis and a black rim to black lesions.

The stems start to wither and the flowers are destroyed.

Black Ink disease can be confused with blackening on leaf tips or spots on the leaves due to water stress, insect damage, or other environmental stresses.

Rust

Black Ink disease



in other words....

The moral of the story is...

Don't get ink on your paws. It's hard to get off.