

# Purple People Eater Mad About Mangave



**A real conversation starter!  
Native to North America.**

## ***Mangave 'Mad About Purple People Eater'***

- ***Use:*** Mangave is a relatively new phenomenon, an intergeneric cross of *Manfreda* x *Agave*. These rare hybrids combine the best of both worlds: the better growth rate and the interesting patterns of *Manfreda*, and the habit and refinement of *Agave*. We are very excited (shall we say mad?) about these hybrids. This succulent is named after the famous novelty song, but it's not about to eat anybody! Rather, the extremely purple coloration is where it gets its name from.
- ***Exposure/Soil:*** Grows best in full sun. Plant in well-drained, dry to average soil in containers just slightly wider than the width of the rosette or plant directly in the ground. In summer when the plants are actively growing, they appreciate a bit of supplemental watering and half-strength fertilizer. They should be grown dry in winter. Mangave is a slower grower, so it will not quickly overtake the space it is allotted in the landscape.
- ***Growth:*** Grows 12-16" tall and 16-24" wide and can expand further.
- ***Hardiness:*** Zone 9-11; Annual, but still untested in our area and may be perennial. Good drainage in rocky soil is a must for good winter drainage. Bring indoors in winter and keep above 60 degrees with high light as a houseplant for safest bet until we know more about their cold hardiness in our area.
- ***Foliage:*** Deciduous (Evergreen if indoors in winter). A neat rosette of thick, sturdy leaves that are blue-green with reddish-purple spotting. However, while walking by, the color will look purple. Bring out its best coloration in full sun; less intense exposure will produce greener leaves. Margins fold upward to show off its yellow, orange, and cinnamon brown spines. At the end of each leaf, there is a cinnamon terminal spine.
- ***Flower:*** After several years of growth, a plant can send up a bloom stalk up to 7' high of branching, yellow inflorescences. Most Mangave are monocarpic and produce only one bloom in their lifetime. They can, however, produce new offsets or "pups" that will live on after the mother plant dies.

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