

FAIRCHILD TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN

Pine Rockland Propagation Factsheet: Pineland croton (*Croton linearis*)

**Note: This information is intended for collecting material from your yard.
It is illegal to collect plants from a natural area without landowner permission**



SEED COLLECTION/PROCESSING

- Seed are available all year long, production peaks in late summer.
- Plants are either male or female; only females produce seed.
- Collect capsules when they are large and plump, like pictured at left. Get only the largest ones. The ripest capsules will have a thin line is visible between the segments.
- Place capsules in a closed paper bag or a sealed, large envelope in a place where they will dry. Near an air conditioner, in the sun, or even on the dash of your car. Wait at least 24 hours.
- Ripe capsules will dehisce. Discard any unopened capsules.



PROPAGATION FROM SEED

- Put seeds in a cup full of very warm water and let them sit overnight.
- The next day, sow the seeds onto the surface of a pot of high-quality, well-drained potting soil or germination mix. Press the seeds into the soil surface gently, but do not bury them. Place the pot on a mist bench. If not available, place the pot in bright indirect light, and do not allow the soil to dry out (daily watering may be needed).
- Germination should be well over 50% and occur within 2 weeks.



VEGETATIVE PROPAGATION

- Select a healthy, large plant with woody growth
- Using scissors or pruners, cut off 4-6" inches of woody branches with new growth at the ends, making sure to keep woody growth at the bottom. If not planting immediately, wrap cut ends in damp paper towel and place in a Ziploc bag until planting.
- Each cutting should have at least 3 nodes. Cut the leaves off the lowermost node(s), and cut away excess stem beneath the bottom node.
- Trim some leaves on top to reduce water loss.
- Dip 1-3 lowermost nodes into rooting hormone, and plant the cutting into a pot containing 100% perlite.
- Keep the pot on intermittent mist until rooting occurs. Expect approximately 10% success.