

**Common Name-** Cockscomb

**Scientific Name-** *Celosia cristata*

**Family-** Amaranthaceae

**Hardiness Zones/Habitat-** Zones 1-10

### **Description:**

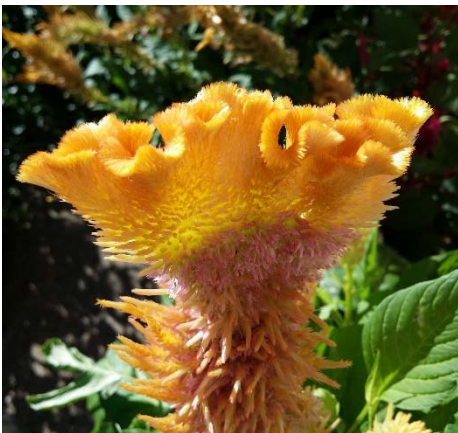
Cockscomb is an annual plant that is an old garden favorite, because of its large crested flower heads that resemble the comb of a rooster. Flower colors can include bright shades of red, orange, purple, yellow, and pink. These flowers range in size from dwarf to tall sometimes including heights from eight to thirty-six inches. Cockscomb flowers can bloom throughout summer into the fall. It can be easily grown in fertile, moist, well-drained soil in the full sun.

Thomas Jefferson planted the seeds of a Cockscomb in 1767. These flowers are located on the West Lawn of Monticello.

### **Uses:**

**Medicinal-** Used in the treatment for bloody stools, dysentery, diarrhea, bloodshot eyes, blurring of vision, cataracts, and hypertension; the whole plant is used as an antidote for snakebites.

**General-** used for ornamentals; can make a body wash from the liquid extracted from the leaves and flowers.



### **References**

*Celosia argentea cristata*. (2012). Retrieved August 1, 2019, from <https://pfaf.org/user/Plant.aspx?LatinName=Celosia+argentea+cristata>

*Celosia argentea* var. *cristata*. (n.d.). Retrieved August 1, 2019, from <http://www.missouriherbarium.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=b728>

Cockscomb. (2018, July 18). Retrieved August 1, 2019, from <https://www.monticello.org/site/house-and-gardens/in-bloom/sockscomb>