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Sprekelia formosissima

[Synonyms : *Amaryllis formosissima*, *Sprekelia formosissima*]

JACOBEOAN LILY is a bulbous perennial. Native to Mexico it has a large crimson flower with long stamens.

It is also known as Aztec lily, Gold lily, *Jaakopinlilja* (Finnish), *Jakabliliom* (Hungarian), Jacob's lily, *Jakobsilie* (German), *Jakobsilja* (Swedish), *Jakubská lilie* (Czech), *Krásna ľalia* (Slovak), Malta lily, Maltese cross, Mexican fire lily, Orchid amaryllis, Orchid lily, and St. James' lily.

Formosissima means 'most beautiful or very beautiful' with reference to the flowers. Authorities claim that the bulb was introduced to Europe in about 1658.