

Cultural Information – Actinidia

(ak-tih-NID-ee-uh)

Hardy to Zone 4 and higher for outdoors.
Full sun, grows 4-6' in container, spring bloomer.

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun (a southern exposure) or partial sun half-day (east or west exposure).
<u>Temperature:</u>	Hardy down to 20 below zero.
<u>Humidity:</u>	50% or higher; however, they will tolerate low levels for short periods with no harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	When plants are in pots, water when the surface of the soil appears dry. When planted in the ground, water weekly if there is no rain. Careful attention needs to be given to watering when first planted. Once they are established they can be grown with normal rain moisture.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	They need little if any fertilizer when planted in the ground unless the soil is very poor. Too much in the way of nitrogen creates aggressive growth with no flowering.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Prune in the winter or early spring if growth is excessive. Once vines are mature they need yearly pruning Head back the vining stems to 6 to 10 nodes from where they sprouted from the main trunk, much like pruning a grape vine.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Little or no problem with insects or disease.
<u>Comments:</u>	The hardy kiwi is a rugged and enduring vine that does best with low fertility and a sunny exposure. They need a support to climb on, such as a trellis or arbor. As they are large and aggressive vines make sure the support is strong. Winter or early spring pruning is needed to maintain size and in mature vines it helps encourage flowering. They need a male and female plant for pollination.

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