

Cultural Information- Alternanthera

(al-ter-NANTH-ur-uh)

Hardy to Zone 10 and higher for outdoors.

Full to partial sun, grows to 8-12" in container, minimum temperature 55°.

<u>Light:</u>	Full to partial sun; a southern, eastern or western exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 55°; under cool temperatures in the winter they can suffer.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate wide swings with no harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring the soil to a state of visual dryness between waterings. When watering, thoroughly saturate soil until a little water runs out of the bottom of the pot. Growing in a clay pot will help maintain a healthy root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	They are moderate feeders so ¼ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a week under warm temperatures and high light. Use a balanced fertilizer such as a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like 7-9-5. Reduce feeding during the winter.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Prune in the late winter or whenever the growth is excessive.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Not bothered by many insects. Aphids can at times feed on them. Diseases are not a problem in the roots or foliage.
<u>Comments:</u>	Alternanthera are easy plants to grow and can be used in annual planting for foliage color and texture. They tend to slow growth in winter and at this time are usually kept in a holding mode until they start to grow in spring.