

Cultural Information – Crossandra

(kros-AN-druh)

Hardy to Zone 10 and higher for outdoors.
Full sun, partial sun, or shade, grows 1-3' in container, minimum temperature 60°, everbloomer.

<u>Light:</u>	Full to partial sun, a southern, eastern or western exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain temperatures above 60°. They will tolerate cooler temperatures, although this will slow down both the growth and flowering.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate low levels with no harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring soil to a state of visual dryness between watering. When watering, thoroughly saturate the soil until some water trickles out of the bottom of the pot. Growing in a clay pot will help maintain a healthy root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	They need moderate levels of fertilizer year-round; decrease fertilizer in the wintertime when growth slows.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Repot once plant has completely filled the pot. Prune when growth is excessive. The plant will sometimes go out of bloom in the wintertime; this is a good time to restructure them. They will take a severe pruning with ease.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	They have susceptibility to mealybug, aphids, scale and whitefly. Their root system and foliage have little, if any, problems with diseases.
<u>Comments</u>	Crossandra are easy to grow, making great container plants for home conservatory or tropical garden. Even under moderate light, they will flower year round. Crossandra pungens is a true miniature that fits well into windowsill culture or terrarium.