

Cultural Information – Genista

(jih-NIS-tuh)

Hardy to Zone 9 and higher for outdoors.

Full sun, grows 1-3' in container, minimum temperature 35°, requires cool night temperatures below 60°, blooms in winter and spring.

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Minimum indoor temperatures above 35°, must have temperatures between 35° and 60° in fall and winter to bloom.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate low levels with no harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Water when the soil is visually dry, when watering, thoroughly saturate the soil until some water trickles from the bottom of the pot. Growing in a clay pot will help ensure a healthy root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	They are moderate feeders, especially when grown under high light, use ¼ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a week during active growth. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like 7-9-5. Stop feeding during the winter or when growth has stopped.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Pruning can be done anytime growth is excessive. We recommend pruning after flowering is complete, usually in late summer. Any pruning after this time will disrupt the flowering cycle as they bloom off old growth.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Highly susceptible to spider mite, some susceptibility to mealy bug. Spray with Neem Oil at first signs of infestation. They have strong root systems and should not have problems with root diseases.
<u>Comments</u>	They flower on cool night temperatures, preferably below 60° and above freezing. Consistent cool temperatures will keep them in bloom. Make a great topiary.

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