

Cultural Information- Helichrysum

(hel-ih-KRY-sum)

Hardy to Zone 9-10 (depending on variety) and higher for outdoors.
Full sun, grows to 8-10" in container, minimum temperature indoors 50°, trailing in habit, blooms in summer.

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 50°.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Humidity is usually not an issue as they can tolerate dry conditions with ease. Very high humidity can cause disease problems.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring soil to a state of visual dryness between waterings and then thoroughly saturate the potting mix until some water trickles from the bottom of the pot. They prefer to be grown on the dry side so attention must be given to allow the plant to dry down between waterings.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Moderate feeders: apply a dilute balanced fertilizer no higher than a 15-15-15 weekly during the growing season. Don't overfeed especially under lower light conditions, as it will produce lush growth that can be more susceptible to disease.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Plants can be trimmed back whenever growth is excessive. This is best done early in the season or when they are actively growing.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	They have few problems with insects, although occasionally aphids will feed on the soft tips. With proper watering, diseases of the foliage or roots are not an issue.
<u>Comments:</u>	Helichrysum are sun-loving herbs that are famous for their colored and textured foliage. Used in containers for the summer months, they have good drought resistance and are immune to most insects. Easy to grow; the key is adequate light.

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