

Cultural Information – Justicia
(jus-TEE-see-ah)

Hardy to Zone 8 and higher for outdoors.
Full or partial sun, grows 12-20” in container, minimum temperature 60°,
everbloomer.

<u>Light:</u>	Full to partial sun, a southern, eastern or western exposure. If they don't flower, increase the light level.
<u>Temperature:</u>	As a potted plant, maintain indoor temperatures above 40°, 60° if active growth and flowering is desired.
<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 waterings. When watering, thoroughly saturate the soil until some water trickles from the bottom of the pot. They are “soft growers” and can use copious amounts of water under high temperature and low humidity. A slight wilt does no harm.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	They need heavy to moderate levels of fertilizer. Give them more under high light. Under most conditions, fertilize with ½ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a week. If leaves become pale or older leaves turn yellow and fall excessively, increase fertilizer to twice a week until they green up. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like a 7-9-5.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Prune after flowering is complete. They are large and rapid growers and periodically need a hard pruning, which they take with ease.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Justicia are susceptible to white fly, spider mite, and aphids as well as mealy bug. They have little susceptibility to diseases of the roots. Foliage diseases are only a problem under high humidity and cool temperatures.
<u>Comments</u>	Justicia are fast and easy growers. They can flower under a variety of light conditions. If blooms stop, it is usually a sign of too low a light level.

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