

Cultural Information – Stapelia

(sta-PEL-ee-uh)

Hardy to Zone 10 and higher for outdoors.

Full or partial sun, grows 3-12" in container, minimum temperature 40°, blooms in summer and fall.

<u>Light:</u>	Full or partial sun, a southern, eastern or western exposure. Grow as close to the window as possible.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 40°.
<u>Humidity:</u>	They will tolerate wide swings in humidity with no harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring soil to a state of visual dryness between watering. 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. Grow drier during the winter when temperatures are lower.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	They are moderate feeders, especially when grown under high light: ¼ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a week when in active growth. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like a 7-9-5. Stop feeding when not in active growth.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Little pruning is needed, except when the plants are very old and have outgrown their container. Pruning is done by cutting back the rhizomes or stems that run along the soil surface. Overgrown plants can be cut hard with no harm.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Stapelia have few problems with insects. Mealy bugs occasionally bother them. If kept too wet, rots of both the stem and roots can consume the plant.
<u>Comments</u>	An easy and enduring plant, they grow rapidly during the summer months, which is also the time when they flower. Good light and a little dryness between watering are essential for success.

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