

Cultural Information – Stictocardia

(stik-toh-KAR-dee-uh)

Hardy to Zone 10 and higher for outdoors.
Full sun, grows 3-5' in container, minimum temperature 50°, blooms in fall and winter.

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 60°.
<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 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.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	They need heavy to moderate levels of fertilizer. Be sure to use a feed with an elevated phosphate level. Excessive nitrogen will produce a rank vine with few flowers. 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>	The best time to prune is after flowering. They flower on the shortened day length of fall and winter to ensure blooming; do not prune after midsummer.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	They have few problems with insects or diseases. The physiological condition of edema can be a problem when grown indoors or in greenhouses.
<u>Comments</u>	A beautiful climber in the morning glory family with tremendous vigor and speed. The blooming cycle is fall through spring and clusters of blooms emerge along the stem at the leaf axis. If allowed to climb and clamber in an open space, the flowers become more visible than when wrapped on a stake or trellis. The greatest challenge in growing this plant is the physiological outgrowth of edema and having enough room to culture it.