

Cultural Information – Acacia
 (a-KAY-see-uh)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 35°. Most can take temperatures below freezing for short periods and most need cool nights below 60° during the winter to initiate flowering.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Tolerant to wide swings in humidity.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring soil to visual dryness between waterings and then thoroughly saturate the potting mix 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>	Moderate feeders. Feed with a balanced fertilizer no higher than 15-15-15 during the active growing season of summer. Discontinue in fall and winter.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Best time to prune is right after flowering. Trees can be headed back to maintain shape and size.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Some are susceptible to spider mites in indoor culture and mealybugs can be a problem if infected plants are nearby. Root disease can be a problem if plants are kept in wet, cold soil. Be sure to allow some dryness between waterings.
<u>Comments</u>	Acacias do make great container plants as long as they have the sun, cool winter nights i.e. 50's 40, and 30's and space to mature. They are trees and although can be maintained as shrubs with pruning they do need room to accommodate their summer growth. It is this growth that the flower buds initiate on, which the plant carries into winter with spring flowering. As a general rule, they need an acidic potting mix with a ph in the 5's.