

Cultural Information – Billbergia
(bil-BER-jee-uh)

<u>Light:</u>	Partial sun or shade; an eastern, western or northern exposure. A brighter exposure is better than deep shade, i.e. morning or afternoon sun.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 40° F.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Not fussy about humidity.
<u>Watering:</u>	Allow the potting media to dry some between watering; then water thoroughly, until some water trickles from the bottom of the pot. It can tolerate neglectful watering. Growing in a clay pot will help ensure a healthy root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Moderate feeder. Fertilize regularly from spring to fall with a dilute solution of a balanced fertilizer. Or top dress once a month with a granular organic fertilizer. Use a low balanced fertilizer no higher than a 15-15-15. Discontinue fertilizer in during the winter months.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Little need to prune except to remove old flower stems. When plants get too large they can be divided.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Few problems with either diseases or insects.
<u>Comments</u>	An easy-to-grow houseplant that tolerates a wide range of cultural conditions. They are fall bloomers and thus respond to the shortening day length to flower. Best to keep them in an area that only gets natural day length, with no artificial light until the flower buds appear. Very low light will also disrupt flowering.