

Cultural Information – Oxalis
(oks-AL-iss)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure. They need a little direct sunlight during the day but not necessarily noonday sun. Exception: Oxalis hedysaroides 'Rubra' prefers as much sunlight as possible.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 40°. Exception: Oxalis hedysaroides 'Rubra' needs temperatures above 60°.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate lower 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. For the bulb types, they can be completely dried out when in a dormant state.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	They are light feeders; use ¼ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a month. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like a 7-9-5. When active growth slows in winter, or they are dormant, discontinue feeding.
<u>Pruning:</u>	The evergreen stem types can be pruned whenever growth is excessive. Initial pruning of young plants within this group will help make full specimens.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	They have few problems with insects. Mealy bug can be a problem if near other infected plants. Oxalis hedysaroides is susceptible to root diseases when grown too wet, too cool or in low light.
<u>Comments</u>	Oxalis are easy plants to grow and perfect for the windowsill. The bulb types can be stored out of direct sunlight when dormant, saving space on the windowsill. Oxalis hedysaroides 'Rubra' is the most challenging variety to grow, needing warm sunny conditions with a little dryness between waterings as well as moderate amounts of fertilizer. This variety cannot be sprayed with any pesticide, as it will damage the foliage.