

Cultural Information- Aporophyllum
(ap-or-oh-FY-lum)

<u>Light:</u>	Partial sun, an eastern or western exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain temperatures above 35°. In the winter, grow in an area that has night temperatures below 60° and above 32° on a consistent basis.
<u>Humidity:</u>	They will tolerate low levels with no harm, even preferring dryness.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring soil to a state of visual dryness between watering. When watering, thoroughly saturate the soil until a little water runs out of the bottom of the pot. They prefer more moisture in the summer. In the winter, from November to March, totally restrict water.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	They are moderate feeders so ¼ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a week is a general recommendation. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like Dyna-Gro Liquid Grow Plant Food 7-9-5. Discontinue feeding in the winter.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Usually little pruning is needed unless height is a concern or the plant is sprawling out of its growing area. The best time to prune is right after flowering.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Aporophyllum have some susceptibility to mealy bug. They also are susceptible to fungal leaf spot, especially during the winter months under excessive humidity and cool conditions. If grown too wet, under high cool temperatures they also can have problems with root and stem diseases.
<u>Comments:</u>	Aporophyllums are easy to grow, loving dry conditions and some direct light. The flowers form at the notches on the flat or triangular leaves of last year. To help induce blooms, grow dry and cold in the winter with nights below 60° and above freezing. Once buds are clearly visible, water can be resumed.