

Cultural Information- Aristolochia
(a-ris-toh-LOH-kee-uh)

<u>Light:</u>	Full to partial sun, a southern, eastern or western exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain temperatures above 60°. They can be grown cooler but this will slow growth and can put them into a semi-dormancy.
<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 the soil until a little water runs out of the bottom of the pot.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	They need moderate levels of fertilizer, give them more under high light. Generally fertilize with ½ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a week. Excessive fertilization can disrupt blooming. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilize like Dyna-Gro Liquid Grow Plant Food 7-9-5.
<u>Pruning:</u>	When growth is excessive, prune back vining growth. Hard pruning is tolerated with ease. Remember that flowers form on young growth, so pruning will discourage blooming for a short time.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Aristolochia are susceptible to mealy bugs. Aristolochia grandiflora has susceptibility to slugs. The latter and Aristolochia peruviana also have problems with spider mite and root diseases, which can be troublesome when grown under cold conditions.
<u>Comments:</u>	Aristolochia are spectacular flowering vines once they are established. They are easy to grow even overwhelming as vining climbers. Aristolochia peruviana is the more challenging one to grow having some inherent weakness to stem rots.

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