

**Cultural Information- Calathea**  
*(ka-LAY-thee-uh)*

<b><u>Light:</u></b>	Partial sun to shade; an eastern, western or northern exposure.
<b><u>Temperature:</u></b>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 60°. They like it warm.
<b><u>Humidity:</u></b>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate lower levels with no harm.
<b><u>Watering:</u></b>	Keep evenly moist. Wilted plants recover slowly and leaves are often damaged.
<b><u>Fertilizer:</u></b>	Low levels of fertilizer. Feed once a month with a diluted solution of a low balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or lower. Discontinue feed during the winter.
<b><u>Pruning:</u></b>	Old flower stems can be removed as well as old or damaged leaves.
<b><u>Insects and Disease:</u></b>	Highly susceptible to spider mite. Keep a close eye on plants when grown under high heat or low humidity.
<b><u>Comments:</u></b>	Calathea are excellent low-light plants that need warmth and even moisture to do well. One of the biggest problems in their culture is the browning or burning of the edges of the leaves. It is a common occurrence and affects certain varieties worse than others. The cause is either high salt levels (too high an application of fertilizer or feed when the plant is dry) or periods of extremes in watering or a combination of both. Although this usually doesn't kill the plant, it does make the plant unsightly.