

Cultural Information- Cestrum
(SES-trum)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain temperatures above 40°.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate low levels with no harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring the soil to a state of visual dryness between watering, and then thoroughly saturate the soil until a little water runs from the bottom of the pot. They are “soft growers” and can use lots of water under high temperature and low humidity. A slight wilt does no harm.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	They need heavy to moderate levels of fertilizer. Give them more under high light. Under most conditions, fertilize with ½ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a week. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer such as Dyna-Gro Liquid Grow Plant Food 7-9-5.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Prune after flowering is complete. As they are large and rapid growers, they periodically need a hard pruning, which they can take with ease.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Cestrum are susceptible to whitefly, spider mite and aphids. They have little susceptibility to diseases of either the foliage or roots.
<u>Comments:</u>	Cestrums are fast and easy growers. Some, like <i>Cestrum elegans smithii</i> , <i>Cestrum newelii</i> and <i>Cestrum diurnum</i> , flower on the change of day length, so pruning needs to be adjusted so as not to cut off flowers. Generally we don't like to prune the above after the first of June. <i>Cestrum nocturnum</i> is an everbloomer that flowers on mature growth.