

Cultural Information- Cymbopogon
(sim-buh-POH-gon)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun; a southern exposure is best.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 60°.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Best to maintain humidity above 50% although it will tolerate lower levels without harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring the soil to visual dryness between waterings and then thoroughly saturate until some water runs out of the bottom of the pot. Growing in a clay pot will help ensure a healthy root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Moderate feeders under warmth and high light. Feed with a low balanced fertilizer no higher than a 15-15-15 at regular intervals through its active growing season. For northern growers, discontinue during the winter.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Plant can be groomed by removing any older browning leaves. If plants get to unruly they can be trimmed back by removing 1/3 to ½ of the foliage, like trimming back grass. Large plants can also be reduced in size by cutting off the mature growths on the outside of the plant; these cuttings can be used in cooking.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Few if any problems with insects or diseases. Their roots will suffer from root rot if grown cold. They prefer temperatures above 60° or even higher.
<u>Comments:</u>	Lemon Grass is an easy plant to cultivate, preferring warm temperatures and adequate moisture to thrive. Low light and cool temperatures, like those found in the winter in the north, will bring plants to a standstill. Under these conditions it is best to stop feeding and be careful not to over water. Plants can be propagated by division in the late winter or early spring.