

Cultural Information – Datura
(duh-TOO-ruh)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure. If they don't flower, increase the light level.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 60°.
<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. 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. If leaves become pale or older leaves turn yellow and fall excessively, increase fertilizer to twice a week until they green up. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like a 7-9-5.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Prune at the end of the flowering season, which is in the fall or any time growth is excessive. It is generally better to go into the winter months with substantial growth and foliage.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Daturas are highly susceptible to whitefly and spider mites. Mealy bug and aphids can also be a problem. They have little susceptibility to disease of the roots. Foliage diseases are only a problem under high humidity and cool temperatures.
<u>Comments</u>	Daturas are fast and easy growers, and can flower best under high light conditions. They will flower when plants are young, even under a foot in height. If blooms stop, it is usually a sign of too low a light level.