

Cultural Information- Dichorisandra
(dy-kor-ih-SAN-druh)

<u>Light:</u>	Full or partial sun; a southern, eastern or western exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 60°. Although they will grow in lower temperatures, fall and winter flowering can be disrupted.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Maintain relative humidity above 50% as a general rule although they will tolerate lower levels for short periods of time without harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring the soil to a state of visual dryness between waterings and then thoroughly saturate the soil until some water trickles from the bottom of the pot. Growing in a clay pot will help ensure a healthy root system. They can tolerate some drought stress without any harm.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Moderate feeders during the spring and summer months. Feed with a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or lower at regular intervals through its active growing season. Discontinue or reduce frequency during the winter especially if plants are grown below 60°. Excessive feed will cause edge burn especially in <i>D. thyrsoiflora</i> .
<u>Pruning:</u>	<i>D. thyrsoiflora</i> : prune back hard right after flowering is completed. Later season pruning will disrupt the next seasons flowering. <i>D. pendula</i> can be pruned at any time growth is excessive although this will reduce the flowering for a while.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	They have few problems with insects and diseases.
<u>Comments:</u>	Dichorisandra are easy plants to grow. As members of the "Wandering Jew" family they tolerate lower light and dryness and still thrive. <i>D. thyrsoiflora</i> is a fall bloomer and needs to be allowed to develop its tall canes without pruning from mid-winter on or the flowering cycle will be disrupted. In older plants, they form tuberous roots that can literally push the plants out of their pots. Periodically they need to be top pruned and root pruned to maintain the constant pot size.