

Cultural Information – Gloxinia
(glox-in-ia)

<u>Light:</u>	Partial sun, shade. An eastern, western, or northern exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Minimum indoor temperature, 60 degrees. Prefer warmer temperatures.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Maintain relative humidity, 50% or higher although they can tolerate lower levels without harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Allow the surface of the soil to become visually dry between waterings and then thoroughly saturate the potting mix.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Moderate to low feeders. Fertilize once every two weeks or once a month with a balanced fertilizer either as a liquid in the irrigation water or as a granular organic fertilizer. Generally at half the rate on the fertilizer container.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Little need to prune except to remove the spent flower and remove older browning leaves. Many Gloxinia go in to a complete dormancy in winter, going back into the bulb. At this time the dying top growth can be removed.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Gloxinia are susceptible to mealybug, thrip, cyclamen mites, and at times aphids. Keep an eye on the plants and treat when necessary. They can have problems with root diseases if kept evenly moist under cooler temperatures.
<u>Comments</u>	Gloxinia are excellent house plants for windowsill and light gardens. They tolerate lower light and dry conditions often found in the home. Avoid wetting the leaves with cold water as this can cause staining on the leaves.