

Cultural Information – Jasminum
(JAZ-mih-num)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure, is best. <i>Jasminum rex</i> can be grown in partial sun; however, some direct sunlight is beneficial.
<u>Temperature:</u>	For optimum growing conditions, they need temperatures above 65°, as they are warm-growing plants. However, short exposure to degrees no less than 45° should not harm the plant. Exception: <i>Jasminum polyanthum</i> and <i>Jasminum officinale</i> prefer and need cool night temperatures during the winter, anywhere from 33 to 55 degrees will do. Their need for cool night is related to flower inducement, which is stimulated by night temperatures below 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 soil until a little water runs out of the bottom of the pot. Growing in a clay pot will help maintain a healthy root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Fertilize once a week with ¼ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water using a balanced, water-soluble fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like a 7-9-5. Under cooler winter temperatures and lower light levels, stop feeding.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Over a growing season <i>Jasminum polyanthum</i> and <i>Jasminum officinale</i> can become large vines that won't fit well in the indoor growing space. Pruning of the vining stems should be done after the blooming cycle is complete, usually in late spring. At this time, they can be pruned severely, from which they quickly re-sprout. Another pruning can be done only if needed in late summer; from thereon, the vine should be allowed to grow until buds appear. Sambacs are upright shrubs; however, if a compact plant is desired, a periodic trim of the stiff vining growth is needed. They respond well to pruning, which encourages thicker growth and increased flower production. It's best to prune when in active growth.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Jasmines have the greatest susceptibility to spider mites. Attention needs to be given to signs of infestation, which begin as small light spots the size of a pinprick appearing on the leaf. The mites are small and are found on the undersides of the leaves. A magnifier may be needed to see them. Plants that have been summered outside often come in with residual populations. Spray 2 applications, 1 week apart of Pure Neem Oil diluted with 1-1/2 teaspoons to the quart of water to which a dribble of dishwashing liquid is added.