

Cultural Information- Leonotis
 (lee-on-OH-tis)

<u>Light:</u>	Full or partial sun; a southern, eastern or western exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 35°. Will tolerate temperatures down into the 20's for short periods of time.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Maintain humidity above 50% although they will tolerate lower levels without harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Allow the soil to dry a little between waterings, then thoroughly saturate the soil until a little water trickles from the bottom of the pot.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	They are heavy feeders from spring to fall especially when grown under full sun conditions. Feed weekly or use a slow release fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or lower. Another way to fertilize is to top dress the pot with an organic granular once a month throughout the summer.
<u>Pruning:</u>	For fall flowering, prune no later than the first of June. Once the fall flowering cycle is complete they can be pruned hard to maintain size.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Highly susceptible to aphids and spider mite if grown under hot and dry conditions. Also thrips can cause problems in greenhouse situations. No problems with root or foliar diseases.
<u>Comments:</u>	Leonotis are easy and fast-growing plants that need high light to perform well. Generally, plants that are started in late spring will flower by September and continue through the fall months as long as the light is high and temperatures are kept above freezing. They will flower again in the spring if the winter light is high, although in the north this is usually not as spectacular a display. In many areas where fall is long enough, they make excellent garden plants that can be used seasonally for fall color.