

Cultural Information – Neomarica
(nee-oh-mar-EE-kuh)

<u>Light:</u>	Full or partial sun, a southern, eastern or western exposure. Keep plants near a window rather than in interior of the room.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 40°; however, they will tolerate lower levels periodically.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate lower levels with no harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring soil to a state of visual dryness between waterings. Make sure the potting soil is well drained and there is good drainage in the container they are potted in. When watering, thoroughly saturate the 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 with ½ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water every two weeks. Use a balanced water-soluble fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like a 7-9-5.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Little, if any, pruning is needed except to cut off the young plantlets that form on the flowering stems. Old plants can be divided if they get too big.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	They are little troubled by insects or diseases. Occasionally they can be affected by spider mite but this is more the exception than the rule.
<u>Comments</u>	Neomarica respond to a period of shortened day length that stimulates flowering. When growing, it should be kept out of artificial light from dusk to dawn until the flower buds are visible. The plant must reach 2 feet in height before it will start to bloom well. Flowers will emerge out of the same spot for many months.