

Cultural Information- Nerium
(NER-ee-um)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 40°.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Tolerant to a wide range of air moisture levels.
<u>Watering:</u>	Allow the soil to become visually dry between waterings and then thoroughly saturate the potting media until some water trickles from the bottom of the pot. Tolerant to dry soil conditions. Growing in a clay pot will help ensure a healthy root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Moderate feeders. Fertilize biweekly spring to fall with a low balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or lower. Discontinue in the winter especially under cool growing conditions.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Prune to maintain size in late winter as they start to grow for the season. It takes the new growth some time to mature and form buds, so pruning tends to slow down the flowering cycle.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Some susceptibility to spider mites under hot dry conditions. Also mealybug can be a problem if grown near other infested plants. Few problems with disease as long as plants are kept on the dry side in both the foliage and roots especially under cool or cold growing conditions. Botrytis can affect flowers under cool temperatures and high humidity.
<u>Comments:</u>	Nerium are rugged and enduring plants that can tolerate dry conditions and still thrive. They can be grown with cool nights in the winter without harm as long as temperatures are kept above freezing, even tolerating some subfreezing temperatures into the high 20's. Full sun is critical for inducing blooms- the more the better. Pruning can slow down the flowering cycle, as new growth needs to fully develop and mature before buds appear.