

Cultural Information – Olea
 (OH-lee-ah)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 35°.
<u>Humidity:</u>	They will tolerate wide swings in humidity 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>	They are moderate feeders, especially when grown under high light. Fertilize with ¼ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a week when they are in active growth. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like a 7-9-5. Stop feeding during the winter or when active growth has stopped.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Prune or pinch young plants to create a multiple branched specimen if a bush form is desired. They can also be trained into a tree form or standard. Prune any time height or form is unacceptable. They break easily from even hard cuts. Note on young plants: frequent pruning will slow down flowering.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Olea have few problems with insects or disease.
<u>Comments</u>	An easy plant to grow that is tolerant of erratic watering and low humidity. High light is important if fruiting is desired. They also make excellent bonsai.