

Cultural Information- Paphiopedilum
 (paff-ee-oh-PED-ih-lum)

<u>Light:</u>	Partial sun, an eastern or western exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 50 degrees.
<u>Humidity:</u>	As a rule maintain relative humidity above 50%
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring the mix to almost dryness and then thoroughly saturate it.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Go light on the feeding, once a month during the period of active growth. Easy to overdo it.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Not much in the way of pruning except to remove old flower stems and back leaves.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Insects are usually not an issue. They can have foliar disease problems if the foliage is kept wet with stagnant air and cool temperatures. Root diseases can affect plants so an open mix and a little dry down will mitigate the problem.
<u>Comments:</u>	Paphiopediums are terrestrial orchids that grow in the under story of tropical forests. They do well under lower light levels where they can flower and grow quite well. An open potting mix is needed to keep the roots healthy and like so many orchids they grow slowly and need humidity for optimum growth.