

Cultural Information – Ruellia
 (roo-EL-ee-uh)

<u>Light:</u>	Partial sun, an eastern or western exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 50°.
<u>Humidity:</u>	As a rule, keep relative humidity above 50%.
<u>Watering:</u>	Allow the potting mix to become visually dry between waterings and then thoroughly saturate the mix until some water trickles from the bottom of the pot. It can wilt easily so attention need to be paid to it watering needs. Growing in a clay pot will help ensure a healthy root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Moderate feeders. Use a balanced fertilizer, no higher than 15-15-15, either water soluble like Dyna Gro 7-9-5 or a granular organic. The latter can be done once a month during the active growing season of spring to fall. The water solubles can be added to the irrigation water once week at a diluted rate.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Pruning can be done to maintain height and form. Best to do in early summer after flowering to not disrupt the next blooming cycle.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Few problems with insects. Mealybugs can affect plants if other infested plants are nearby. Diseases are generally not an issue.
<u>Comments</u>	A great plant of containers and windowsill growing. It does well under moderate light and even when out of flower the foliage is attractive. It does respond to the shortening daylength of fall to initiate flowering so if blooms do not appear and the last pruning was done in early summer then artificial light can be disrupting the blooming cycle.