

Cultural Information – Staghorn Fern- Platycerium bifurcatum
In tree fern pot
(plat-ee-SIR-ee-um)

<u>Light:</u>	Partial sun, an eastern or western exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 50° or 60° if active growth is desired.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate low levels with no harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Water only when the tree fern pot has become light when lifted. The Ponga Pot can be placed in a saucer and watered from the bottom. Once it is saturated, the pot will feel quite heavy.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Go easy on the fertilizer. Apply monthly or bi-monthly. Fertilize with ½ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or 7-9-5. Excessive fertilization can create difficulties in culture.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Remove any old fronds that have turned brown, which does happen in time.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Resistant to most insects; scale can be a problem if the plant is exposed to an infected plant. They are susceptible to root disease if kept too wet.
<u>Comments</u>	Staghorn ferns are epiphytes or tree dwellers that need good quality light, that is some direct sunlight during the day and a period of dry potting media between waterings.