

Cultural Information – Strelitzia
(stre-LITZ-ee-uh)

<u>Light:</u>	Full or partial sun, a southern, eastern or western exposure. Can also be grown in shade although it will slow or reduce flowering.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 40°.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Tolerant to wide swings in relative humidity. Generally not a problem
<u>Watering:</u>	Allow the potting mix to become visually dry then thoroughly saturate until some water trickles from the bottom of the pot. Growing in a clay pot will help ensure a healthy root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Feed regularly spring to fall with a balanced fertilizer no higher than 15-15-15 using either a slow release, an organic granular or a liquid that is added to the irrigation water.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Generally little pruning is done except to cut off old flower stems or damaged leaves.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Few problems with either insects or diseases
<u>Comments</u>	The bird of paradise is an easy to grow container plant that is tolerant to dryness and even lower light levels. To flower well they do need some direct sun light, doing best in a full sun exposure. They can grow into fairly large plant over time and with large succulent roots that push themselves out of their pots. Repotting is necessary from time to time. Large old plants that can no longer be repotted can be divided as the plant will form multiple crowns.