

Cultural Information- Streptosolen
(strep-toh-SOH-len)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun: a southern exposure is best.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 50°. For northern growing areas, winter temperatures are better kept above 60°.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Best to maintain humidity above 50% although it will tolerate lower levels without harm for short periods.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring soil to visual dryness between waterings. Avoid a severe wilt. It has soft leaves that transpire (lose water) freely and under high light and heat it can easily go into a severe wilt which can cause defoliation. This is most noticeable during the winter when humidity can be low.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Moderate to heavy feeder under warmth and high light. Feed with a balanced fertilizer at regular intervals through its active growing season. For northern growers, reduce feeding during the winter if nights are generally kept below 60°.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Prune in late spring and no later than the 1 st of September to allow plants to set bud. They are daylight sensitive and respond to a shortening day length to induce bloom.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Susceptible to aphids and whitefly. Root disease can be an issue during the winter if grown cool and under low light. Botrytis can also affect the flower and foliage under cool temperatures and high humidity.
<u>Comments:</u>	Streptosolen is a great plant for winter color that needs full sun exposure to perform well. Temperatures above 60° during the winter months will keep the flowers developing. It is the shortening days of fall that induce blooms. Keep plants in an area that gets natural daylight without the interference of artificial light. Be watchful of putting the plant in a severe wilt especially during the flowering season as it can cause defoliation. Also do not over water especially during the winter, as they are sensitive to root disease.