

Home-Grounds-Garden

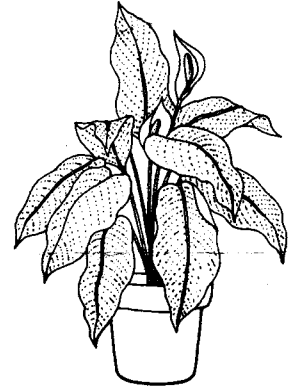
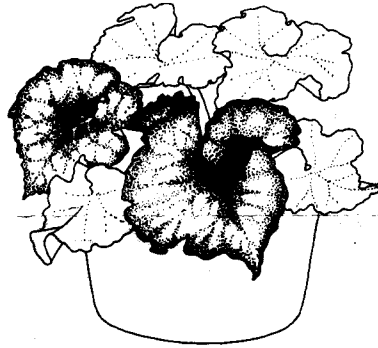
**INDOOR PLANTS
Growing Conditions**

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION • NEW YORK STATE • CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Page: 501.00
Date: 6-1982

Growing Conditions for Indoor Plants

Russell C. Mott*
Bailey Hortorium
Cornell University



Notes for Table

Light (Minimum light requirements of the various species)

High: Bright, direct light or sunlight through unobstructed south, east, or west window. Within 4 feet of window. 300 footcandles or greater.

Medium: Bright, indirect light, 4-10 feet from an east, south, or west window. No direct sunlight. Directly in front of an unobstructed north window. 100-300 footcandles.

Low: 10 feet or more away from a window — no direct light. Encompasses the greatest area of most interiors where plants are to be included. Directly in front of an obstructed north window. 25-100 footcandles.

Water

Moist: Indicates the plant requires frequent watering — soil surface should not be dry.

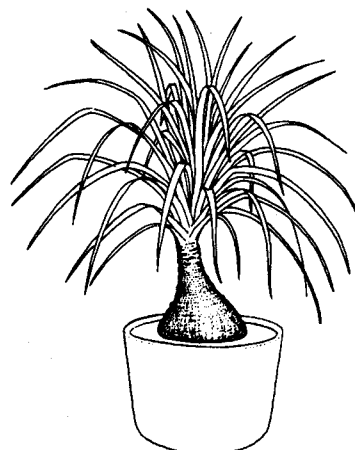
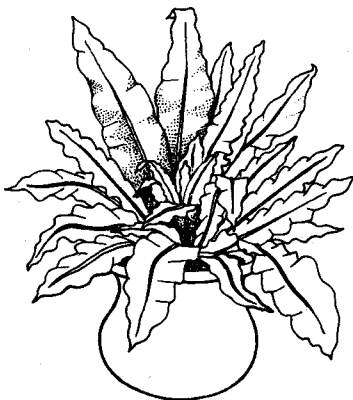
Dry: Infrequent watering. For pots 6" diameter or less, soil surface should be dry to the touch before rewatering. For containers of greater diameter, media should be dry 1"-2" below the surface. (When water is required, apply thoroughly until excess drains out the bottom.)

Temperature

Cool: Temperature of 60°, with variations from 50° to 70° F. Night temperature, 50°-60° F.

Warm: Temperature of 75° with variations from 65° to 85° F. Night temperatures, 65°-75° F. (Temperatures at night should decrease about 10° from normal day temperatures.)

*Retired. The author acknowledges the assistance of Donald A. Rakow, Cooperative Extension, Broome County, and Richard Weir III, Cooperative Extension, Nassau County, in gathering the information in this fact sheet.



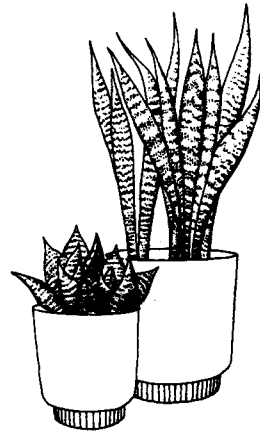
Growing Conditions for Indoor Plants

| Botanical name | Common name | Light | | | Water | | Temperature | |
|---|---------------------|-------|--------|-----|-------|-----|-------------|------|
| | | High | Medium | Low | Moist | Dry | Cool | Warm |
| Common Foliage Plants | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Adiantum raddianum</i> | Maidenhair fern | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Agave</i> spp. | Century plant | ■ | | | | ■ | ■ | |
| <i>Aglaonema</i> (spp.) <i>modestum</i> | Chinese evergreen | | | ■ | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Aloe barbadensis</i> | Medicine plant | ■ | | | | ■ | ■ | |
| <i>Araucaria heterophylla</i> | Norfolk Island pine | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Ardista crenata</i> | Coralberry | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Asparagus setaceus</i> 'Sprengeri' | Asparagus fern | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Aspidistra elatior</i> | Cast-iron plant | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| <i>Asplenium nidus</i> | Bird's-nest fern | | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Brassaia actinophylla</i> | Umbrella tree | | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | |
| <i>Calathea makoyana</i> | Peacock plant | | ■ | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Caryota urens</i> | Fishtail palm | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Chamaedorea elegans</i> | Parlor palm | | | ■ | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Chamaedorea erumpens</i> | Bamboo palm | | | ■ | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Chlorophytum comosum</i> | Spider plant | | ■ | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Chrysalidocarpus lutescens</i> | Areca palm | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Cissus antarctica</i> | Kangaroo vine | | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Cissus rhombifolia</i> | Grape ivy | | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | |
| <i>Citrus</i> spp. | | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Clusia rosea</i> | Signature plant | | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | |
| <i>Codiaeum variegatum</i> and vars. | Croton | ■ | | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Coffea arabica</i> | Coffee tree | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Cordyline terminalis</i> | Ti plant | ■ | | | | ■ | ■ | |
| <i>Crassula argentea</i> | Jade plant | ■ | | | | ■ | ■ | |
| <i>Cycas revoluta</i> | Sago palm | | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Cyperus</i> spp. | Umbrella plant | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Cyrtomium falcatum</i> | Holly fern | | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Diffenbachia</i> spp. | Dumb cane | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Dizygotheca elegantissima</i> | False aralia | ■ | | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Dracaena fragrans</i> 'Massangeana' | Corn plant | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Dracaena reflexa</i> | Pleomele | ■ | | | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Epipremnum arueum</i> and vars. | Pothos | | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Fatshedera lizei</i> | Fatshedera | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Fatsia japonica</i> | Japanese aralia | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Ficus</i> spp. | Fig, rubber plant | | ■ | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Fittonia verschaffeltii</i> | Nerve plant | | | ■ | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Hedera helix</i> | English ivy | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Howea forsterana</i> | Kentia palm | | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Hoya carnosa</i> | Wax plant | | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Iresine herbstii</i> | Bloodleaf | ■ | | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Livistona chinensis</i> | Fan palm | | ■ | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Maranta leuconeura</i> | Prayer plant | | ■ | | ■ | | | ■ |

(continued on next page)

Growing Conditions for Indoor Plants (cont.)

| Botanical name | Common name | Light | | | Water | | Temperature | |
|--|----------------------------|-------|--------|-----|-------|-----|-------------|------|
| | | High | Medium | Low | Moist | Dry | Cool | Warm |
| Common Foliage Plants (cont.) | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Monstera deliciosa</i> | Split-leaf philodendron | | ■ | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Nephrolepis exaltata</i> | Boston fern | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Pandanus veitchii</i> | Screw pine | ■ | | | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Peperomia</i> spp. | | | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Persea americana</i> | Avocado | ■ | | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Philodendron selloum</i> | Saddle-leaf philodendron | | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>P. scandens oxycardium</i> | Heart-leaf philodendron | | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Phoenix roebelenii</i> | Dwarf date palm | | ■ | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Pilea cardierei</i> | Aluminum plant | ■ | | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Pittosporum tobira</i> 'Variegata' | Pittosporum | ■ | | | | ■ | ■ | |
| <i>Platycerium</i> spp. | Staghorn fern | | ■ | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Plectranthus australis</i> | Swedish ivy | | | ■ | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Podocarpus marcophyllus</i> | Podocarpus | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Polypodium</i> spp. | Polyphy | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Polyscias balfouriana</i> | Polyscias | ■ | ■ | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Rhapis excelsa</i> | Lady palm | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Rhoeo spathacea</i> | Oyster plant | | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | |
| <i>Rumohra adiantiformis</i> | Leatherleaf fern | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Sansevieria trifasciata</i> | Snake plant | | ■ | | | ■ | ■ | |
| <i>Schefflera arboricola</i> | Umbrella tree (schefflera) | | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Spathiphyllum</i> spp. | White flag | | | ■ | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Sphaeropteris cooperi</i> | Tree fern | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Syngonium</i> spp. | | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Tolmiea menziesii</i> | Piggyback plant | | ■ | | ■ | | ■ | |
| <i>Tradescantia</i> (incl. <i>Zebrina</i>) | Wandering Jew | ■ | | | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Yucca elephantipes</i> | Yucca plant | ■ | | | | ■ | ■ | |
| Common Flowering Plants | | | | | | | | |
| | Azalea | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | |
| | Begonia | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | |
| | Chrysanthemum | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | |
| | Cyclamen | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | |
| | Lilies | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | |
| | Poinsettia | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | |
| | Primula | ■ | | | ■ | | ■ | |
| Common Bromels (high light in winter to flower) | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Aechmea miniata discolor</i> | Vase plant | ■ | | | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Aechmea fasciata</i> | Urn plant | ■ | | | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Billbergia nutans</i> | Queen's-tears | ■ | | | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Billbergia pyramidalis</i> | | ■ | | | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Cryptanthus</i> spp. | Earth-star | ■ | | | ■ | | | ■ |
| <i>Noeregelia carolinae</i> 'Tricolor' | | ■ | | | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Tillandsia cyanea</i> | | ■ | | | | ■ | | ■ |
| <i>Tillandsia ionantha</i> | | ■ | | | | ■ | | ■ |



Cooperative Extension, New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, New York State College of Human Ecology, and New York State College of Veterinary Medicine, at Cornell University, and U.S. Department of Agriculture, cooperating. In furtherance of acts of Congress May 8 and June 30, 1914, and providing equal opportunities in employment and programs. Lucinda A. Noble, Director.