



# CARE OF CASCADE AND NON STOP TUBEROUS BEGONIAS



Non-Stop and cascading tuberous begonias are recent hybrid begonias adapted for hanging baskets. The newer "Illumination" series of begonias are more cascading in plant habit than the Non Stop varieties, but are just as colorful and dependable. Though these begonias are a little more particular in their requirements, they reward the gardener with a brilliant display of color until frost.

**LOCATION** Tuberous begonias which are native to the cooler regions of the Andes Mountains of South America require cool nights of about 60 degrees and warm sunny days of around 80 degrees to bloom most profusely. These begonias require protection from the hot afternoon sun and strong drying winds, They thrive best in morning sun and afternoon shade. Protect if the temperatures go below 40 degrees. However do not leave indoors for any extended period of time.

## **WATERING AND FERTILIZER**

Tuberous begonias require moist soil. Never low to dry out. Fertilizer about every ten days with any recommended liquid fertilizer. Fertilize only when the ground feels moist.

**INSECTS AND DISEASES** Few insects bother tuberous begonias. Mealy bugs can be controlled with any recommended insecticide. Though begonia baskets need to be moist avoid overwatering as this will encourage root and stem rot.

Tuberous begonias are long any plants so expect very little bloom during the winter. In fact, they tend to go dormant during the winter. These potted begonias may be wintered over in a cool basement. These begonias should form small tubers by late summer.. By October trim the plant down to the ground and place in a cool place. Water just to keep the soil slightly moist. Move outdoors again in May, preferably after May 15th.