



CARE OF THE NEW HYBRID "WAVE" PETUNIAS

Ride the wave to successful gardening



Wave petunias were first introduced to the American garden in 1995 with the introduction of the All American Winner "Purple Wave". Since that time three more colors have been added to this series of an entirely new class of landscaping petunia. The parent species of this variety was oddly enough found growing as a weed in some vineyards in southern Brazil. A Japanese brewery developed these hybrids from the native wild petunias of southern Brazil. Newer colors are appearing on the horizon.

LOCATION Wave petunias can endure hot and dry conditions with ease and bloom until frost. They need full sun for best results. Even windy conditions does not seem to bother them

WATERING AND FERTILIZING Petunias require well drained conditions. The pot can be allowed to go slight dry between watering since petunias do not like to be over watered. Do not water late in the day so foliage can dry off before nightfall. Wave petunias seem to be slightly heavy feeders, so fertilize with any liquid fertilizer such as Peters or Miracle Gro, Never fertilize dry baskets.

INSECTS AND DISEASES Few insects or diseases bother Wave petunias. They are very resistant to botrytis mold which bothers many petunia varieties during wet and cool conditions. Sometimes the newer foliage turns a unhealthy light green or even white. This is due to an iron deficiency . It is best to fertilize with an supplement to improve the plant's appearance. Stem rot may be a problem during wet spells. The baskets can be trimmed to size during the summer if they get too lanky. The variety "Purple Wave" seems to cascade the most.

VARIETIES:

There are now many varieties of Wave Petunias. There is a new series called Easy Wave . The Easy Wave Series includes white, red, blue, cherry and shell pink. The plant habit on the Easy Wave is more compact, but it still maintains the trailing and mounding habit of the Wave petunias. Think of the easy Wave as better behaved Wave petunias.