



CARE OF LANTANA HANGING BASKETS



Nothing is more colorful than a basket of trailing or hanging lantanas. These annuals do a double duty in the garden for they attract hummingbirds and butterflies and withstand heat and humidity blooming until frost. If you follow these tips you will enjoy a summer-long burst of color.

LOCATION: Lantanas require full sun. They will not succeed in shady areas. Lantanas thrive in

warm conditions and should not be placed outside until temperatures remain above 55-60 at nights. Lantanas will 'sulk' at cool night temperatures. Do not place lantana baskets outside where they might be subjected to cold and windy conditions early in the spring. If they need to be protected from cold frosty nights, keep indoors but immediately move outside as the temperatures warm during the day. Never leave indoors for a prolonged period of time and NEVER place in a garage. Chemicals from any lingering auto exhaust will injure fuchsias as well as many plants.

FERTILIZING AND WATERING: Lantanas are heavy feeders and should be fed at least every ten days with an all purpose 20-20-20 liquid fertilizer. Avoid dry fertilizer. Lantanas are gluttons for water and during an extended hot and dry spell in the summer you may have to water twice a day. Fortunately if they get too dry they can be revived and any damaged plant parts can be pruned away.

INSECTS AND DISEASES. The worst insect pest is the white fly. These and other insect pests can be controlled by a recommended insecticide. Neem based insecticides are particularly effective against whitefly and are very safe to use. Very few diseases of importance attack lantana.

OTHER PLANT TIPS. If baskets become overgrown, you can prune them to the desired shape. Lantanas do best under warm sunny conditions and are very difficult to keep indoors during the winter. If you have any further questions feel free to contact us at krismerplants@fuse.net .

