

Hanging Baskets

CARE INSTRUCTIONS

1. SITE:

Choose a location that is appropriate for the plants needs (sun or shade). Most baskets do best if they get some shade during the day. Try to avoid the hot noon sun. Choose a protected spot - out of the prevailing winds. Geraniums, Million Bells and Scaevola have good wind resistance.

2. WATERING :

A general rule is to water in the morning to avoid diseases. Also it is recommended to give a good thorough dose less often instead of a little sprinkling every day.

A good method to find out if your basket needs water is lifting it with one hand and get a feeling for its



weight. In mixed baskets often times one plant variety (e.g. Impatiens) starts wilting first and therefore is a good indicator. Some varieties are more drought tolerant, like Lantanas & Geraniums. Keep in mind, on a hot and/or windy summer day you might have to water twice a day! You can also soak the whole basket in a bucket of water.

3. FERTILIZING:

Again this is depending on the plant varieties. Begonias, N.G. Impatiens, Impatiens & Pansies are low feeders. Geraniums, Fuchsias, Lantanas & Verbenas are medium feeders. The new trailing Petunias want a lot of food and x-tra Iron. Our potting mix contains slow release fertilizer but as the plants grow you need to supplement with liquid fertilizer once or twice a week, depending on the strength of the solution. Or give a top dressing with Osmocote (slow release fert.). Never fertilize when plants are dry or wilting!!

4. "GROOMING"

In order to keep your baskets blooming and good looking it is very helpful to remove spent flowers (deadheading). Trim back any plant that takes over in a mixed basket, like Licorice vine. Many plants benefit if cut back in mid summer. New, fresh growth and flowers in 2-3 weeks is the reward. Varieties like Osteospermum, Brachycome & some Verbenas stop blooming in the summer heat. As the nights are getting cooler they will start blooming again.

5. DISEASES & INSECTS:

Take the time to check for insects like aphids, spider mites etc. and diseases like powdery mildew (especially on Begonias). Caught in time, there is a better chance to get the problem under control!

But most of all - enjoy the beauty of your flowers! From all of us at

Clear Creek Nursery