

TROPICAL PLANT CARE

DO

Know your plants water needs



Use tepid instead of cold water. Rain or filtered water is best



Provide the right amount of light requirements. Not too much, not too little...just right!



Rotate your plant a quarter turn at each watering for even growth



Keep room temperature above 55F



Fertilize your plant according to instructions. Aim for 3-1-2 ratio for example 12-4-8 (N-P-K). At a push, an all-purpose 20-20-20- can also be used



Check for insect or mite problems regularly and control using appropriate products



Clean your plants often. Leaves can be wiped with a soft moist cloth



Talk to, love and enjoy your plants

DON'T

Overwater or leave your plant standing in water for long. This will kill your plant. Water must drain then be emptied



Use fluoridated, chlorinated or softened water



Place plants too close to open windows or heating vents. Some plants are more tolerant than others to sudden drafts



Over fertilize, stick to the manufactures directions. Too much can cause problems too. Reduce or stop entirely during winter



Ignore brown edged or yellow leaves. It could be a sign of a nutritional imbalance or watering problem



Re-pot too soon. Only re-pot when roots fill the pot and go up in size moderately



Be afraid of owning tropical plants, it's easier than you think



everest
TREES

TROPICAL

PLANT TROUBLESHOOTING

Water Stress

Overwatering

Sudden leaf drop, wilting leaves, yellowing leaves, root rot, growth decline, death.

Underwatering

Wilting leaves, leaf tip and margin scorch, poor growth, dried leaves, leaf drop, death.

Light Stress

Excess light

Scorch marks on leaves, bleaching of leaves, leaf colour loss.

Insufficient light

Yellowing leaves, elongated stems, leaf drop, stunted leaf growth, stems leaning towards light.

Common Pests

Spider Mites

Are tiny hard to see mites. They feed off plant sap and are prolific breeders.

Look for - Tiny white or yellow spots or "stippling" on leaves.
Bronzing or yellowing discoloration.
Webbing indicates a spider mite infestation.



Aphids, Scale Insects & Mealybugs

All are sap suckers. They hide under leaves and on stems.

Look for - misshapen, curling, stunted, or yellowing leaves.
Sooty mold on leaves.



Pest Treatment

Insecticidal soap is effective against mites, scale insects aphids and mealybugs. It has little impact on people and animals. This product will only kill insects that the soap directly contacts. It does not have any residual activity.

Target the undersides of leaves as well as on top. Repeat applications may be necessary

Nutritional Deficiencies

It is often difficult to accurately diagnose nutritional deficiencies without specialist equipment or testing the plant tissue or soil. Often symptoms are similar to other nutrient deficiencies and are associated with them. However here are a few common deficiency symptoms.

Nitrogen deficiency

Yellowing of older leaves, bottom to top.
Newest growth stays green
Stunted growth

Potassium deficiency

Symptoms vary among plant species but;
Yellow or purple leaf-tints with browning at the leaf edge
Older leaves may wilt or look scorched

Magnesium deficiency

Older leaves become yellow at margins with green arrowhead shape in centre of leaf

Potassium deficiency

Older leaves may wilt. Leaves may look scorched.
Interveinal chlorosis with scorching inwards from leaf edges