

GROWING ORCHIDS VANDAS

VANDA ORCHID CULTURE

Vandas are colorful and prolific orchids, originating in warm, humid climates, such as tropical Asia, that have plentiful sunshine. They can be flowered in a greenhouse, or even a sunny window. Vandas can bloom several times a year.

Light -

Strong light is important. Some sun must be available. In the home, full south sun is best.

Water -

Give frequent water when growing orchids, but plants must dry quickly. Keep on the drier side if the temperature is cool. Mist roots and plants in the home frequently. If warm and sunny, they need daily watering. Mist several times daily in dry or hot climates.

Temperature -

Days: 75° to 95°F Nights: 55° to 65°F

High temperatures and humidity are best for fast growth and frequent flowering.

Fertilizer -

Fertilize regularly with 20-14-13 full strength once a week if warm. 11-35-15 is a high phosphorus fertilizer, to be used every third application to promote blooming.

Potting -

Repot Vandas in the Spring. Vandas like lots of water when growing but must dry quickly. Because of this and their extensive root system, they are mostly grown in slatted wood baskets or simply hanging free. When they are potted they require coarse potting medium, fir bark or tree fern fiber.

