

Growing Instructions

Lowland/Intermediate Nepenthes and Companion Plants

Lowland and intermediate plants are found from sea level up to 1500 meters (5000ft) in elevation, this means they are adapted to very warm temps, and hot days with a small drop in temps at night is recommended. Lowland and Intermediate Nepenthes are typically found in forested areas and typically prefer moderate light and high humidity. Lowland and intermediate plants are generally considered to be fairly easy to grow and many can be adapted to household conditions without temperature regulation although a regulated grow space is always recommended.

Lowland and intermediate plants should be given days in the high 70's to mid 80's while nights can be anywhere from the high 60's to the mid 70's. If you are using a grow tent or terrarium to grow your plants, these temps will likely be reached naturally just as a byproduct of grow lights. If you do need a raise your temps, a small heating device like a reptile mat can help.

Lowland and intermediate plants typically need moderate light, a good starting point is a 100 watt LED grow light placed 18 inches above your plants, for sensitive lowland Nepenthes (such as *krabiensis* or *pudica*), you may want to raise your lights or turn down their intensity slightly. People often over-estimate how bright windows are, thus we always recommend using grow lights.

Lowland and intermediate plants are typically adapted to very high humidities and some lowland species may have thin leaves that make them more sensitive to humidity drops. A good rule of thumb is 85% humidity in the day and saturated humidity at night, this can easily be achieved with a cool mist humidifier and a humidistat.

Watering your lowland and intermediate plants is very easy as long as a few precautions are followed, pure water must be used, these plants are adapted to habitats with few minerals and contaminants, reverse osmosis or distilled water are the best options. You should also be careful to keep the soil media moist but not wet, water when just the top layer of soil starts to dry a bit, do not let your plants sit in water, they are susceptible to root rot!

Your new plant is potted in either coco husk chips mixed with pumice, or if a species adapted to rocky soils, kanuma and akadama. These medias are very fresh and your plant should not require repotting for at least a few years. When you do eventually repot your plant a similar soil mix is recommended, however a simpler mix of long-fiber sphagnum moss and perlite can suffice and may be more affordable and easier to source.

Highland Nepenthes and Companions Plants

Highland plants grow at high elevations, generally 1500 to 3500 meters (5000 to 11000 ft), they are found in cool cloud forests, and because of this ecological niche they can be a bit more challenging to grow. Highland Nepenthes and their companion plants require warm days and cool nights with constantly high humidity, while some species may be more forgiving of less than ideal conditions, others will likely not survive long term without proper care.

Highland plants should be given day temps in the mid to upper 70's while nights should be in the mid 50's. Providing night time temperatures that low can be challenging for new growers, but finding a suitable method such as a wine cooler setup or an air conditioned grow tent, is imperative for longterm cultivation of highland species.

Highland plants often grow on exposed mountain summits and most prefer higher light levels than lowland or intermediate species, a good starting point is a 100 watt LED grow light 15 to 18 inches above your plants. People often over-estimate how bright windows are, thus we always recommend using grow lights.

Highland plants are often found in the cloud forest zone of a mountain, this means that they are used to very high humidities. A good rule of thumb is 85% humidity in the day and saturated humidity at night, this can easily be achieved with a cool mist humidifier and a humidistat.

Watering your highland plant is very easy as long as a few precautions are followed, pure water must be used, these plants are adapted to habitats with few minerals and contaminants, reverse osmosis or distilled water are the best options. You should also be careful to keep the soil media moist but not wet, water when just the top layer of soil starts to dry a bit, do not let your plants sit in water, they are susceptible to root rot!

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Acclimating your new plant

Your plant is adapted to the proper conditions according to its type, should your growing conditions vary to those described above we recommend bagging your plant to keep it in gentle high humidity conditions while it acclimates. To do this, seal your potted plant into a large plastic bag, then place in its future growing environment, over a period of 3 to 4 weeks slowly open the bag to allow the plant to adapt. While bagged you will likely not need to water your plant at all but should the soil dry out a small amount of watering is acceptable. If your grow space has extremely high light intensity we recommend placing your bagged plant in a shadier corner then gradually move it to higher light.

If you have any specific questions pertaining to the species you purchased feel free to reach out to us at info@nepenthesaddict.com