

Techniques For Growing Miniatures

Lynn Wallach

Pots: 2 ¼" clean

Soil: 1 part soil, 1 part perlite, 1 part vermiculite, some horticultural grade charcoal

Water: wick- one ply acrylic yarn baby food jar

Fertilizer: balanced 1/8 tsp. per gallon of water

Light: GroLux bulbs 6 to 10 inches below tubes

Size: Semiminiature 8" or less in diameter

Mini 6" or less in diameter

Measure leaf span with a 6" or 8" embroidery hoop

How to keep small:

1. Do not over crowd -- More growing space means miniatures grow smaller.
2. Prune. Because of their restricted size, miniatures require frequent pruning. Miniatures varieties produce more leaves than standards.
3. Small pots control the size
4. Repotting must be done three to four times per year. If you keep removing leaves from The plant it will form a neck which forces you to repot.

Show time table for Miniatures

January: All plants need to be potted up

February: Put one new bulb in your light fixture

March: lights on for 12 hours a day. Increase light time by one hour nine weeks prior to show until lights are on for 16 hours per day.