

Sundews! The Extended Guide

Whether you've purchased a plant from us or simply want to learn, all are welcome!

Be aware that it might take a couple of weeks for a plant to adapt to the new growing conditions you give it, especially if they are vastly different from the conditions it came from! It's normal to see a colour shift or a dieback of leaves as a result of this change. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us anytime!



Origin: Sundews can be found all over the world! Even in Canada! However, most species thrive in tropical, subtropical, and temperate climates, such as Australia, Asia, New Zealand, and South Africa. If you have purchased a Tokaiensis, they're actually from Japan!

Sun: We always recommend grow lights for our carnivorous species to help them thrive, as natural light from a window is often unreliable. If you cannot have a grow light, a sunny window would do best. Drosera (Sundews) do well both in direct and indirect sunlight; they're less picky about their light than other carnivorous species but still appreciate some good rays. If placed too close to a light source, they can dry out, so sometimes less is more.

Humidity: Although some species of Drosera can handle less humidity, we never recommend keeping them that way, as they will be unable to eat. Sundews cannot eat without the dew on their leaves; only a highly humid plant can produce that dew. We recommend 60% or higher humidity; if your sundew doesn't have dew, the humidity isn't high enough.

Temperature: Sundews are also less picky about their temperature. Some can survive as cold as 5 degrees Celsius, but for a thriving plant, we recommend 20 degrees or higher, especially for more tropical and subtropical species. Dormancy is required for temperate species of Sundew, but not for tropical/subtropical kinds, so it will depend on what type you have. There are even Tuberous sundews of Australia that go dormant in the summer heat.

Watering: DO NOT USE TAP WATER. Tap water has a high mineral content, which these guys are not designed to handle. Eventually, those minerals will build up in the roots and kill the plants! Options are distilled water, reverse osmosis, and rainwater. Sundews are not drought-resistant, but they can handle some drying between waterings. However, remember that watering is crucial for dew production on their leaves.

Soil: DO NOT USE POTTING SOIL. Potting soil contains fertilizers and minerals that can kill carnivorous plants. The most common media used for sundews is a mix of peat moss, perlite and sand. You can also use sphagnum moss mixed with perlite or on its own, just like we do in the nursery!

Feeding: DO NOT FEED HUMAN FOOD! We recommend fruit flies, Drosophila Melanogaster, as live, fresh bugs are always best and using bugs that are too big can allow them to escape from the dew on their leaves. However, if you don't like bugs, you can use freeze-dried or thawed bloodworms. Fish flakes can also be used, but very sparingly, as it's prone to causing mould growth.