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Carnivorous Plants - Growing Instructions

Stand the plant on a saucer filled with gravel. Water the plants by keeping the gravel topped up with suitable water. Carnivorous plants are intolerant of tap water so either rain water, distilled water or pond water should be used. These plants will not tolerate fertilizers either and these should never be used. Care should be taken not to over water during the winter when it is better to let the saucer empty before refilling it.

Keep the plants in a sunny position in a south facing window, in a green house or a propagator.

The plants should be allowed to die back during the winter, remove the dead foliage carefully as the plants die back. Make sure you protect your plant from the frost.

The plants will feed on a wide variety of insects using different and fascinating methods to lure and catch their prey.

Aquatic Carnivorous Plants

Aquatic carnivorous plants such as *Utricularia* die back in the winter and stay in hibernacula form at the bottom of the pond or tank until the water temperature begins to rise when they will begin to grow again.

Utricularia can be cultivated in an outside pond or inside in a medium or large **Invertebrate Tank**. Place wetted peat or sphagnum moss on the bottom of the tank to a depth of between 2 and 20 cm. The pH of the water must be kept acidic: between 4.5 and 6. *Utricularia* will feed on a wide variety of aquatic invertebrates such as *Daphnia*.