



Sarracenia

(Trumpet pitcher plant)



Sarracenia (also known as North American or Trumpet Pitcher Plants) are native to North America. *Sarracenia* are hardy and easy to grow.

There are eight species of *Sarracenia*: *S. alata*, *S. flava*, *S. leucophylla*, *S. minor*, *S. oreophila*, *S. psittacina*, *S. purpurea* and *S. rubra* as well as numerous variants and hybrids.

Distribution and habitat

Sarracenia are found in sphagnum peat bogs from Florida through the east and south east of the United States, up into Canada.

Light

Grow *Sarracenia* outdoors in direct sunlight. Light shading may be required in summer if temperatures are high or the climate has low humidity. If grown indoors ensure that plants receive at least 4 hours direct sunlight per day.

Temperature

Sarracenia can tolerate the full temperature range in New South Wales. Many *Sarracenias* can tolerate temperatures down to -5°C and up to 45°C in summer provided they are given sufficient water and humidity.

Water

Sarracenia require ample humidity to grow well. During the growing season pots should be placed in trays of water 25mm to 50mm deep. During winter plants should be kept moist but not wet. Do not allow pots to dry out at any time.

Fertilizer

Sarracenia do not need fertilizing as they catch their own food.

Growing media

Option 1: Live sphagnum moss

Option 2: Sphagnum moss peat / sand / perlite mix. Sand must be washed thoroughly to remove salts and fine silt.

Dormancy

Winter. During this period the plant dies back. Dry leaves should be cut off. New flowers will emerge in Spring, followed by new leaves.

Propagation

1. Seed.
2. Rhizome cuttings.
3. Clump division.

Common pests and diseases

1. Scale insect
2. Root mealy bug.

Insects can be controlled with insecticides containing imidacloprid, e.g. Yates Advanced Rose Gun.

When to repot

When the plant appears to be outgrowing its pot.

Credits:

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