



GARDENERS' GANDER: SUCCULENT CARE

by Nancy Lawrence, Greenhouse Grower

What do you do with that succulent dish garden or pot that you brought home from the garden center?

A common misconception is that succulents do not need much water. It is true that they can go longer period without it, but they will not 'thrive' in a drought like condition. The general rule of thumb is to water when soil is dry. It could be once a week during the hottest months and less frequently during the colder months. You can tell if your plant needs water by lifting the pot up and if it feels light then it needs. When watering make sure to let the water run out of the bottom of the pot, if it is not leaking through the bottom hole than it needs more water. Get to know the feeling and weight of the plant after you have given it a proper drink.

How much light will your plant needs is another question often asked?

Your plant will do best in bright but indirect sunlight. To avoid burning and scorching your plants, keep them in a place where they get adequate light, but not direct light. You will know if your plants become leggy and stretch towards the light that they are not getting enough sun. If this is the case, rotate them or move them to a brighter spot. Artificial light is another alternative to making sure your plant gets enough light during the winter dark months.

Happy growing!