



Woolf Orchid Culture

Zygopetalum Culture at Woolf Orchidculture

by John Woolf

LIGHT

Small plants need around 80% shade. Flowering plants from 40% to 60% shade.

WATER

Copious amounts during Spring & Summer tailoring off in Autumn (Fall) as flowers open and Winter. Don't let plants dry out. Keep the compost moist.

AIR MOVEMENT

This is a MUST. Good air circulation reduces the risk of fungal and bacterial attacks. You cannot water as you should without good air circulation. The plants will stay too wet and roots will rot.

POTTING MIX

You can use a very open compost. We use a good composted bark from flake a fine (3-5mm) for composts to 50mm pots. For 80-100mm pots use a medium (5-10mm) grade and for larger pots a mixture of medium and coarse grades or just coarse grade depending on your watering habits.

DISEASE

Once again prevention is better than cure! Good air circulation and cleanliness will assist in keeping spraying of fungicides to a minimum. Pick up all dead leaves weeds from the floor and regularly rake and spray the floor to stop fungal and bacterial growing.

TEMPERATURE

Zygopetalums will survive from around 4°C to 25°C. They must be protected from direct frost or leaves will get black fungal marks if grown cold & wet.

FERTILISER

(Australian Growers)

We use Growforce BM7 plus Librel Calcium, Iron & Micronutrients. Early Spring give three or four applications of E+7 to kick start after Winter. Fertilizer should be given as often as possible

- at least twice a week at half recommended strength. More light
- more fertilizer; less light - less fertilizer!