

Growing Gesneriads

'Fibrous' Rooted Genera

Aeschynanthus- plant numerous cuttings per pot eg.- 5" bulb pan /'underpot'/ good hanging baskets / prefer to dry out between watering / medium light, 2 tubes or back from window

Alsobia- plant several stolons per pot / good moisture levels

Bellonia- shrubby grower, prune to shape / never dry out ! / medium light

Boea- Asian origin/ high humidity and constant moisture / medium light

Calcareoboea- prefers high humidity / mix with extra lime / cool temperatures / dislikes Transplanting / little fertilizer

Chirita- Asian/ likes Saintpaulia mix / medium lighting/ dry out between watering/ less fertilizer/ cool temperatures / OK with underpotting / prune tall growing varieties back in early Spring to induce new growth from base

Cobananthus- shrubby grower/ prune to keep small/ medium light

Columnnea- same as Aeschynanthus

Corytoplectus- Medium light/ never dry out / high humidity

Cyrtandra- large growing / high humidity / medium light / constant moisture

Drymonia- tall and/or viny growers, may need trellis or staking/ warm temperatures and lots of water/ medium light / many flower on old wood so minimal pruning

Episcia- warm growing/ medium light and constant moisture / propagate from stolons

Gesneria- Central American genus/ must never dry out !!! / medium(dwarf clumping species) to high light levels (upright growing shrubby species) / good humidity and warmth

Haberlea- alpine origin/ cool-cold winters to induce flowering/ very well drained mix

Henckelia- Malaysian genus / low-medium light / constant moisture/ grow covered

Nematanthus- from Brazil / same culture as Aeschynanthus

Neomortonia- viny growing/ same as Aeschynanthus but OK with cooler temperatures

Paliavana and Vanhouttea- tall growing South American relatives of Sinningia without tubers/ high light / prune hard in Spring to keep compact

Paradrymonia- medium light/ good moisture levels/ flower over long period

Petrocosmea- low to medium light / dry out between watering/ cooler temperatures in winter improve flowering/ use shallow pots and pot up when leaves grow over pot edge

Rhyncoglossum- medium light / prune to keep compact / keep wet

Rhytidophyllum- medium to high light / high humidity/ constant moisture

Saintpaulia- medium light/ 2 tube shelf or back from east or south window/

Streptocarpus- same as Saintpaulia but OK with cooler temperatures and slight drying out between watering

Rhizomatous Genera

Achimenes- plant several rhizomes or pieces of rhizomes per pot / high light- eg 4 tubes or outside in shade/ prune back when young to induce branching/ definite dormancy period

Amalophyllum, Phinaea and Diastema- plant several rhizomes per small pot/ may have definite dormancy or not / lots of water/ low light for Amalophyllum and medium for others

Eucodonia- same as Achimenes

Gloxinia, Gloxinella and Seemania- high light/ most have minimal or no dormancy period/ lots of water

Hemiboea- same as Lysionotus

Kohleria- lots of water / most high light but some OK with medium/ OK with over potting/ do not dry out/ cut back to top of pot when too tall to induce new growth

Lysionotus- Asian / keep moist/ like cool temperatures/ medium light levels

Loxostigma- same as Lysionotus

Monopyle- medium light / constant moisture/

Pearcea- low to medium light / high humidity / constantly moist / prune to pot level when too tall

Raphiocarpus- from Vien Nam/ culture same as Lysionotus

Smithiantha- start in small pot and pot deep in larger pots as gets taller/ definite dormancy period

Titanotrichum- Asian / never dry out ! / medium to high light/ hardy outside in many areas

Tuberous Genera

Chrysothemis- long irregular dormancy period (keep dry) / high light / lots of water when growing

Nautilocalyx- low to medium light / on floor beside light stand OK for many/ constant moisture/ high humidity / short lived flowers

Sinningia- most high light but many OK with medium, eg middle of 2 tube shelf / plant with top of tuber at soil surface / keep dry when dormant and well watered when growing