

Quaker Meadows Carnivores

Venus flytrap Care Sheet

Please pot your Venus flytrap as soon as possible after receipt and move to a location outdoors with filtered sunlight, then move to a full sun location outdoors after a few days or so. The plants we grow at Quaker Meadows Carnivores are accustomed to growing in full sun outdoors.

The plant may be showing signs of stress after shipping such as closed or blackening traps: this is normal and the plant will recover and grow new traps with appropriate care.

Medium: 3:1 peat:perlite or chopped long-fiber sphagnum. You can find long-fiber sphagnum on Amazon or orchid supply stores. Peat and perlite are sold at most garden centers that also carry potting soil. Do not use standard potting soil or fertilizer. Medium must be thoroughly moistened before potting: soak the sphagnum or peat in a bowl of appropriate water (see below) for 30 minutes then squeeze out excess water.

Pots: Plastic pots are preferred. Never use terra cotta pots or anything that may leach minerals into the medium.

Water: Distilled, rain water, or RO only. You can also use a ZeroWater pitcher but be sure to regularly test the TDS and replace the filter as needed. Keep the pot sitting in a dish of ¼" - ½" of water at all times, though letting the dish dry between fillings (no longer than a day or two) can be okay as long as the medium doesn't dry out and you live in a humid area. Tap water will kill Venus flytraps.

Sun: Venus flytraps really need full sun outdoors to thrive. Experienced growers may grow indoors under full spectrum lights. Less experienced growers should avoid windowsills and other indoor environments.

Dormancy: Venus flytraps need a period of dormancy in the winter or they won't live very long. Growers in the southern United States may be able to grow their flytraps outdoors year-round with a natural dormancy during the entire winter. Growers elsewhere may need to provide a protected dormancy: unheated greenhouse or 2 - 3 months in the fridge. We've seen Venus flytraps survive very low nighttime temperatures growing outdoors here in North Carolina (they are native to our zone 8 coastal areas).

Feeding: Please do not feed your Venus flytrap. They should be allowed to catch bugs naturally while growing outdoors.

Pests: Venus flytraps are rarely bothered by pests.

Feel free to contact us with any questions about caring for your Venus flytrap. Happy growing!

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