

Midtown Carnivores

<http://www.midtowncarnivores.com>

GENERAL CARE: Place your plant's pot into a bowl or container, and add water to the container until the water is ~¼ of the way up the side of the pot. Place the pot and its bowl outdoors in an area of bright sunlight, away from roof overhangs or structures that block sunlight at different times of day. (Or, place the pot indoors on a sunny south- or west-facing windowsill, or under an artificial light source.) After the water has evaporated, add water again to the same level and proceed.

WATER: *Drosera* plants require water with under 50 parts per million (ppm) of total dissolved solids (TDS). Steam-distilled water (available at pharmacies & groceries), reverse-osmosis water and collected rainwater are three recommended types. If using tap- or garden hose water, check its TDS level with a handheld meter to ensure that it is <50 ppm. NEVER use "nursery water," "spring water" or "mineral water" as these have added ions that will severely and irreparably harm your plants over time. (TDS meters are available on our online store under [SEEDS AND SUPPLIES: OTHER.](#))

LIGHT: Growing outdoors is an easy way of providing the right type of light for your plants. Sunlight is optimal, but placement is also important. Choose an open location where your plants can receive gradually increasing amounts of sunlight as the day progresses. (For a more controlled environment, fluorescent lighting can be used as an indoor alternative.) For several plants, a fluorescent ballast may be used, but for fewer plants, a desk lamp with a compact fluorescent tube (CFT) bulb should be fine. I recommend a "Daylight" spectrum bulb, rather than a "bright white" or "soft white." Plants should receive at least 14 hours of light per day. We advise using an outlet timer. Keep the plant 6"-12" away from the bulb, so that it receives enough light to thrive, but not so much heat that the leaves dry out.

MEDIA: *Drosera* requires acidic, nutrient-poor growing media (soil), with good drainage to prevent root rot. A mix of sphagnum peat moss and perlite (1:1 ratio) is recommended. Pure long-fiber sphagnum moss may also be used. **NEVER use fertilizers**, Miracle-Gro products (including their peat moss and perlite) or gardening/potting soil, as these contain minerals that WILL kill your plants in a matter of days.

WHAT TO EXPECT: Plants will grow new trap leaves as they exit dormancy in early Spring. New leaves will unfurl from the center of the plant. Between spring and summer, in mature plants, you may see a stalk emerge from the center of the plant that lacks carnivorous tentacles. That is a flower stalk. Enjoy it, the flower is beautiful and will self-fertilize to obtain seed. When older leaves will brown and die off, you can cut them off to prevent fungus. In autumn, the plant will slow its growth of new leaves and eventually stop before winter begins. This winter period of dormancy is **required** for long-term plant survival. The dormant plant forms a bulb called a 'hibernaculum' will like an armored acorn, but this is normal. **Reduce watering to moisten only** and shelter the plant in a cool, dark location for the winter, and bring the plant back out in mid-April to mid-May.

For any questions, please contact us at any time:



Plant Care Sheet

Drosera – Temperate Sundews



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We also recommend the following from the [SEEDS AND SUPPLIES](#) section of our online store:

[**CARNIVOROUS PLANT MIX #1**](#)

[**TDS METER**](#)