



Hanging Basket, Ground Pot and Flower Bag Care Sheet

LOCATION

Choose a suitable location in terms of sun, shade and wind. If you are unclear of a pot or basket's specific needs, please ask.

WATER

The frequency of watering will depend on the weather, location and the types of plants. Generally, potting soil in the pot or basket should be moist but not soggy. Don't allow plants to wilt between watering. Water thoroughly using a watering wand. If basket or pot is dry and water runs through quickly, follow up with another watering a few minutes later. It's important that your pot or basket get a good, thorough watering each application. Overwatering can lead to problems, so refrain from watering deeply if the soil is already very moist.

FERTILIZER

Five Mile Farm recommends fertilizing your container pot or hanging basket with a water soluble blossom booster, such as Fertilome Blooming & Rooting Soluble Plant Food or Jack's Blossom Booster. Apply the fertilizer to pot or basket every two weeks during the spring. When summer arrives and you are watering daily, we recommend fertilizing once a week using half the recommended strength. It is important to ensure soil is always moist before applying fertilizer.

CLEANING

Remove spent flowers to promote additional flowering.

PEST CONTROL

Certain flowers are more prone to specific pests so it's important to first identify what is causing a problem before taking action. A couple of the more common pests in hanging baskets are budworm and aphids.

- Budworm: Geraniums and petunias are targets for budworm. Signs of budworm will be holes in flowers or reduction in the number of blooms in a basket or pot. BT (often sold as 'Caterpillar Killer') is an organic pesticide effective at killing budworm and is safe for people, pets and pollinators. Weekly preventative applications can be beneficial in ensuring budworms do not cause damage to your baskets or pots.
- Aphids: Aphids are attracted to many types of flowers in the garden. This pest sucks juices from leaves and can cause discoloration, leaf curling and stunted growth if not



addressed. A good first round of aphid control is to blast the infected leaves with a forceful stream of water to remove them. Various organic pesticides can be an effective way to manage aphids without harming people, pets and beneficial insects. Fertilome Triple Action Plus, Neem, Spinosad and horticultural oils are all soft pesticides that can work well to control aphids. To protect pollinators, it is important to apply pesticides early in the morning or at dusk when pollinators are not active.

WEATHER

Idaho weather can fluctuate a great deal in the spring. It is very important to be aware of the night and early morning temperatures when placing your baskets or pots outside. **Take the necessary precautions to make sure your pot or basket is not subject to freezing temperatures.**

Five Mile Farm guarantees our merchandise is of the highest possible quality when it is on our premises and strive to ensure this level of quality is maintained by our customers throughout the growing season. Following the recommendations in this care sheet will ensure the long lasting beauty of your pot or basket. No warranty is expressed or implied upon purchase. Please contact us if you have any questions regarding proper care.