

# TRADESCANTIA

## Dave's Tips



**PLANT NAME:** TRADESCANTIA

**PRODUCT FORM:** Unrooted Cuttings

Trailing ornamental foliage crop that is perennial in zones 9-12. Commonly used in 10" or 12" hanging baskets and combination planters. Relatively resilient with few environmental or pest issues.

**HARDINESS ZONE(S):** 9-12

**TEMPERATURE:** Optimal Growth 85°F during the day and 70°F at night. As temperatures approach 50°F the plant's growth will slow, and below 50°F it will cease. Frost will severely damage the exposed foliage. A deep freeze can severely damage the plant although it is perennial in zones 9-12.

**LIGHT LEVELS/INTENSITY:** Medium, High

**GROWING CONDITIONS:** 5000-7000FC Moderate feed. Moderate moisture. Mild to warm growing environment. Fast Growing. Easy to root URC. Moderate to high humidity. Rare pest or disease issues. *To root the URC's:* Root in 1000-2000FC Mist for 1-4 days. Keep soil moist for 7-10 days before starting wet/dry cycle.

**FERTILIZER:** Not heavy feeders. A granular feed incorporated into the mix that is higher in nitrates and lower in phosphorous is fine at the moderate rate. If liquid feeding, 100-125ppm constant feed of a 15-3-16+ or 15-3-20+ fertilizer or another similar feed is fine. Watch the EC and leach occasionally if needed. Using less ammoniacal nitrogen in your feed will help prevent the pH from drifting lower and for growth control.

**DISEASE:** Disease is also rare but if soil is kept too moist pythium can attack the root system.

**POTENTIAL PESTS:** Pests are rare but these plants can get mealy bug, scale, whitefly, and aphids.



### Growth Rates

- This plant is fast growing.
- 6-9 cuttings can be direct stuck into a 10" hanging basket and finish within 16-20 wks.

### Product Uses

- Indoor plant
- Patio plant
- Groundcover
- Hanging basket
- Combo pot

### Tip

- Pinch the plant throughout growth cycle to encourage branching.

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### SOIL MIXTURE

Well drained soil that can retain moisture but allows for a good oxygen exchange for the root system. Especially important in large hanging baskets that tend to stay moist for longer periods of time once saturated. EC .08-1.2 (mS/cm) and pH 5.8-6.2.

### WATER

Maintain moist soil. Allow the top inch of the soil to dry before watering again. Do not maintain saturated anaerobic media as this will promote root disease. If foliage ever looks 'grey'/dull the plant is drought stressed, and this should be avoided.

### HUMIDITY

50% and higher is ideal. Never mist the foliage or allow foliage to go into the night wet as this promotes disease.