

# Kalanchoe thyrsiflora 'Desert Rose' Red Lips

CULTURAL INFORMATION  
From URC and into Cell Pack 50 Tray



## Planting

- Water in the soil thoroughly before planting, then plant, do not re-water in or mist.
- Do not plant too deep (DO NOT BURY the heart of the plant) or the risk of fungus dramatically increases.
- Drench in with Rovral (Chipco) – no need to re-water this in.

## Medium

Plant into a medium to well drained peat based media.

## Lighting

- High light production will keep the cell pack growth more compact.
  - In Florida we grow the liners in 50% to 65% shade. This is about 35Klux to 55Klux. If too dark the stems and petioles tend to stretch quickly.
- Most European growers have screens that would need to be pulled at 500 Watt/m<sup>2</sup>.

## Watering

- Allow soil to dry before re-watering. Growing with Ebb and flood is best but overhead systems for water or fertilization can be used. Do not allow the foliage to remain wet overnight.
- If the frequency of irrigation is too high, the plant may have the tendency to stretch.

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## Fertilization

- Keep well fed with high EC (2.5) using NPK ratio of 9-3-6.
- pH is best kept between 5.8 to 6.2.

## Insects and Others

- No special insect threats but Mildew is of concern.

## GENERAL GROWING CONDITIONS

- Optimum growing conditions 64°F (18°C) Night temperatures and 86°F (30°C) Day temperatures.
- Plant can tolerate night temperatures as low as 50°F (10°C) and Day temperature as high as 95°F (35°C).
- Airflow is critical to avoid mildew issues. HAF fans are the best way to keep foliage clean.
- Normal sprays for mildew along with the use of Sulfur are indicated.
- Liners will be ready to transplant once plugged, which will take 6 to 7 weeks in Summer and 8-10 weeks in Winter.

## SPECIAL NOTES

- Avoiding Flowering!

This is a short day flowering crop, so it is important to keep the day length at a minimum of 14 hours in order to keep the plant in vegetative growth mode. You can use HID lighting, but regular incandescent lights are normally sufficient.

