

# **\*SPECIAL CARE ARRIVAL NOTES\***

## **1. OPENING YOUR ORDER**

Carefully remove your cuttings from the package. For larger cuttings, branches may have been bent to fit within the box. **Do not** be dismayed if cuttings have broken branches. **Plants are resilient and will grow back with vigor.** Plant leaves may have a white residue. This residue is calcium from our irrigation system. Throughout the warmer season months, plants are kept outside in 75% shade. This can result in leaves that may have black water spots or a tattered appearance. **Do not fret!** Cuttings will produce new leaves upon acclimation. Late fall and winter plants are dormant and will not have leaves (with exception to evergreen varieties). **If the box is damaged, first document the damage thoroughly. Next, contact us ASAP.**

## **2. INITIAL PLANTING & ACCLIMATION OF YOUR CUTTINGS**

Regardless of what season your order arrives in, **it is imperative that you grow your cuttings in a suitably sized, well drained container for their first 6-8 weeks of active growth.** This means that if your order arrives in the late fall, winter, or early spring, your 6-8 week timer will begin when the plants have broken dormancy by producing new growth. We recommend one cutting per 1 gallon pot with Miracle-Gro ® Performance Organics Container Mix Soil. **Do not** use any potting soils marketed as “indoor.” These are not indoor plants. Dig a hole 6-12 inches in diameter, with a depth no deeper than the original soil line on the stem. Place the cutting in the hole and fill; lightly compact the fill dirt. Lastly, water the plant heavily to seal the soil around the root ball and remove air pockets. Check the soil moisture of your container(s) every 2-3 days. If dry, rehydrate the soil.

### ***LATE FALL / WINTER / EARLY SPRING***

Late fall, winter, and early spring orders have arrived before weather is stable enough to support keeping potted plants outside. Keep your plants in a protected environment with sunlight until suitable weather returns. This could mean a greenhouse, a naturally lit room, or a combination of inside/outside locations with container movement during sufficiently warm days (safely above freezing).

### ***LATE SPRING / SUMMER / EARLY FALL***

Your cuttings have been inside a dark box for anywhere from 2 to 5 days. The leaves **will burn** if exposed to a full sun environment, and the plants are more likely to perish. It is best to gradually move your potted cuttings from shade to sun. **Cuttings can take up to one month to sufficiently acclimate to full sun lighting.**

## **3. FINAL TRANSPLANT OF YOUR CUTTINGS**

Following the 6-8 weeks of minimum container growth, you are now safe to transplant your cuttings into your desired outdoor location. **If at all possible, transplant your cuttings in the fall.** We recommend planting 1 cutting every 2 linear feet. To increase the odds of success, transplant your cuttings under cover, in the evening, or on a sufficiently overcast day. Be sure to break up the ground soil to the finest consistency possible, and follow the above initial planting instructions for hole depth, placement, and watering. We recommend supplementing your soil using Miracle-Gro ® Performance Organics In Ground Soil at this stage. **Do not** fertilize your soil until your plants are established (3-6 weeks). Fertilize according to the recommendation of your local agriculture extension office or based on your personal experience. **Avoid over watering!** Saturate the ground only once every 10-14 days.

***IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS  
PLEASE CONTACT US IMMEDIATELY!  
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***THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!***