

Catasetinae Plant Culture for Late Summer and Fall

Your Catasetinae are in full growth now, with many growers around the country seeing their plants bloom. This is my favorite time of year! Watering and fertilizing should be in full swing with your plants bulbs mature or reaching maturity now. This is when your plants are putting on their best growth. Remember to switch back to ½ tsp. in early October.

No re-potting at this time, the roots are well-developed and will resent being disturbed. If you were negligent (how could that be?) it is better to wait until next spring at this point.

This is when your Catasetinae can really take advantage of lots of light and air movement to helping to push and finish the development of the new growth. Ideal temperatures now are 75-95 degree days and 60-70 degree nights, with humidity between 40% and 80%.

Still keep an eye out those pesky spider mites, as they can get a foot-hold on your plants as they have 8 feet! Be diligent and check the undersides of the new leaves regularly. If mites are detected, spray immediately. They can quickly get out of control if early action is not taken!

Looking ahead, with autumn just starting and that means winter will be upon us soon, yeah, I know, it arrives faster every year. We are still about 2 months away before you start to see the indications of leaf yellowing and leaf drop signaling the beginning of dormancy. This is when you should stop fertilizing and cut back on watering frequency. You want to simulate the end of the wet season, as it happens in nature. This change in culture will cause the pseudobulbs to harden off, in preparation for dormancy.