

Tillandsias are the world's only true AIR PLANTS. Tillandsias are called AIR PLANTS because their leaves absorb water and nutrients from the air. Since their roots don't feed them, they grow without soil.

Tillandsias are members of the *Bromeliad* family and are native to the southern U.S. down through South America. They are found clinging to rocks, tree branches, cliffs and even telephone lines. Tillandsias are hardy and adapt well to most "captive environments". With minimum care, you'll watch your plants grow, bloom and reproduce.

- INDOORS** Keep in bright, filtered light. Soak twice a month for four to six hours or mist heavily one to three times weekly, depending on house humidity. Let plants dry completely between waterings.
- OUTDOORS** Tillandsias love to grow outdoors in spring and summer. Keep in bright, filtered light and soak weekly 10-20 minutes, or shower with a hose two to three times per week, depending on humidity. Protect from frost and direct afternoon sun. Bring inside by the end of September.
- FERTILIZER** Soak or mist monthly during spring and summer with any water-soluble fertilizer mixed *no stronger* than $\frac{1}{4}$ strength. Fertilizers high in phosphorous help encourage blooming.
- REPRODUCTION** Following the blooming period the plant will produce several offshoots called pups. They usually form around the base of the mother and can be separated after they have grown to be at least half her size. To separate, simply break off pup from mother at the roots – like pulling a banana off a bunch. The new pups don't have to be separated and, if left intact, will form a beautiful cluster of plants.
- MOUNTING** Attach Tillandsias to any surface by gluing or wiring base of plant. If gluing, use a non-toxic, waterproof craft glue. Tillandsias don't have to be mounted to grow.
- SPECIAL TIPS**
- Tillandsias thrive on good, fresh air circulation.
 - If plants look dehydrated, soak them in water for eight to twelve hours.
 - Water them well, but **don't** keep them damp.