



Festive Plants – GRIPP – Awareness Campaign

Sundews, *Drosera* sp., comprise a genus of carnivorous plants that supplement their nutrition with insects they lure, capture and digest using mucilaginous glands covering their leaves.

These tissue culture plants are an interactive educational platform allowing a glimpse into the fascinating world of plants as well as our need for greater commitment to plant conservation and environmental consciousness while providing support for the local community and its constituents.

These festive plants are propagated on non-toxic chemical medium in aseptic conditions. Once the cap is removed, the plant must be potted in regular soil or disposed. Glue or tape can assist in reinforcing seal if the cap becomes loose. DO NOT attempt to open them unless you are ready to replant.

These do not require any maintenance for at least 6 months. When the growth medium disappears, it can be potted in regular soil.

However, as a living growing plant, they do need to be maintained at an appropriate temperature and need some light.

Following are recommendations for how to proceed if you wish to try:

- Open the container and return it to where it has been growing to allow the plant to start acclimatizing. After 2-3 days, break the container open and gently rinse the medium off the plant under warm running water. Glass, when broken, should be handled carefully and disposed in sharps.
- Plant the sundew in potting mix in a standard plant pot, water, and cover with plastic to maintain high humidity.
- Over the next few days, cut holes in the plastic covering to slowly reduce the humidity. Alternately, slowly move the covering to increase the size of the opening to achieve the same reduction in humidity.
- Eventually, the plastic cover can be removed entirely.

Gosling Research Institute for Plant Preservation (GRIPP)'s support to United Way