

GARDEN SPOT NURSERY

Tillandsia Tips and Tricks

(A.K.A. Air Plants)

Xerographica

Spanish Moss

Ionantha

Care

Care for tillandsia will vary depending on your environment. In a less humid environment, soak for 10 minutes once per week, shake out any excess water and dry upside down in a well-circulated area. If not dry after 3-4 hours, they are in danger of root rot. In a humid environment, a good mist once or twice a day should keep them happy. You will need to adjust these recommendations depending on the humidity in your home. In any environment, they will prefer bright, indirect light.

Region

Tillandsia can be found naturally in Southern U.S., Mexico, Central and South America.

Misconceptions

Tillandsia do not live off of "air," they need H₂O to live. They are known as epiphyte, which are not planted or rooted in soil or water. Their roots attach themselves to things like trees, rocks, and structures. Tillandsia do not feed off of this "host" for survival.

Life Stages

Bloom/Flower → Produce Pups → Pups begin to clump

Pups can be gently removed from mother with a "wiggle" once they are about 1/3 size of the mother to grow on their own.

All About Air Plants

Tillandsia with fuzzy leaves and silvery/dusty surface are "Xeric," which come from dry climates without much rain. They are covered with trichomes that absorb water. More pronounced trichomes are able to collect ample water and store it for dry spells.

"Mesic" tillandsia come from shady, moist environments such as rain forests.