

Poinsettia Pointers

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If you grew some of the new poinsettia cultivars in 1991, you soon found that they had to be grown differently than the "Heggs".

Fertility balance, frequency and concentration varied, plus temperature requirements were very specific.

Many times, out of necessity, poinsettia cultivars, which have different cultural requirements, are grown in the same greenhouse, resulting in mixed responses.

Generally speaking, it pays to provide the specific cultural requirements for a given cultivar to allow it to reach its full potential. Many of the newer poinsettia cultivars which are subjected to "average" cultural conditions do not attain optimum growth and development.

Study, yes!! Study the information provided for growing and handling the new poinsettia cultivars that you are growing. Do not make needless cultural mistakes. It can be assumed that the introducer of a new cultivar has many of the cultural requirements determined before releasing it to the trade.

My final reminder to you regarding new cultivars is to **read, heed and believe** the introducer's cultural information.