



Ixora spp. Plant Care

Key Elements to growing an Ixora

To guarantee that your ixora grows healthy and flowers during the season the four key elements that must be addressed are:

1. Fertilization..... Ixoras are heavy feeders
2. Sunlight..... Ixoras must be grown in full sun
3. Water/Irrigation..... Keep watered but on dry side
4. pH of the soil..... Maintain pH of soil low (5.5 to 6.0)

Soil

- Likes soil rich in organic and peat matter and with good drainage
- Maintain soil pH in the 5.5 to 6.0 range..... calcareous sandy soils have high pH
- Avoid planting near concrete foundations of house or sidewalks since they tend to have high lime concentrations because of the concrete



Exposure/Light

- Exposure: Full sun preferred but will grown in partial shaded areas
- Temperature: Optimum temperatures are between a minimum 70° F night and less than 90° F daytime temperatures. Ixoras are frost sensitive and slow their growth during the cool season.

Watering/Irrigation

- Sensitive to overwatering, water early in the day and allow leaves to dry before sunset.
- Ixoras are drought and salt tolerant. Maintain plants grown in containers soil on the dry side.

Pruning:

- Ixoras should be pruned once per year in the early spring when new growth begins to appear
- During the rest of the year only light pruning to remove overgrown offshoots should be done.
- Excessive shearing of the plant reduces flowering and promotes diseases.

Care & Maintenance

- A well maintained ixora will provide blooms all year long.
- Fertilize 2 to 4 times per years with a granular fertilizer that has a complete Macro and Micronutrient package.
- All nutritional issues must be address prior to the cool season before the plant slows down

Common Disorders

Nutrition	Pest & Insects	Diseases	Cultural/Environment	Other
Iron and Manganese deficiencies from high soil pH	Aphids Scales Mealybugs Spider mites Root Weevils	Anthracnose Leaf spots Sooty Mold Bacterial spots Root rots	Soil pH in the 5.5 to 6.0 range Maintain watered but on dry side	Growth slows down during cool weather Lack of blooms because of too little water or sunlight
Phosphorous and Potassium deficiencies				

See "Ixora- Diagnosis of Disorders by Signs and Symptoms" for complete details on how to correct disorders