

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DO YOU TREAT LIKE CACTUS?

Adenium obesum, is also known as Sabi Star, Kudu or Desert-rose. It is native to tropical and subtropical eastern and southern Africa and Arabia. While some *Adenium* do grow in extremely arid deserts, it does not necessarily follow that they need to be wedged in a rock crevice and constantly deprived of water. Many xerophytes evolved from tropical species that adapted to aridity rather than migrated as the forest retreated due to climatic change. *Adeniums* are apparently among these, and most of the them have not lost their affinity for more moist growing conditions in summer which stimulates their growth a lot.

Water them as if they were coleus or tomato plants while they're growing in hot weather, but as if they were delicate, rot-prone cacti during winter. *Adeniums* are extremely susceptible to rot when watered too frequently during cool weather or if chronically waterlogged at any season. Use of a well-drained potting medium prevents most rotting problems.

CAN THEY BE GROWN INSIDE YEAR ROUND?

Although *Adenium* is a popular houseplant in temperate regions it requires a sunny location outside in summer. When nights stay above 50 degrees place your plants outside and leave them there all summer long- the hotter and sunnier the better. The point is they like a change in day to night temperatures to grow and bloom properly. When temperatures drop below 50 degrees in the autumn, bring your plants inside. If you live where nights rarely drop below 40 to 50 degrees, you can leave your plants outside year round.

WHAT SIZE AND TYPE OF CONTAINER IS BEST?

Adenium like pots that allow their soil to dry rapidly and to allow room for their swollen base or caudex to expand. These plants prefer a shallow pot as opposed to a deep pot. They prefer a wide pot as opposed to a narrow pot. They do best in clay or ceramic as opposed to plastic. Try to avoid letting a catch dish ever sit with water in it to prevent rotting out. It is recommended to use an eight inch wide pot that is no deeper than four inches. This is a typical cactus type pot.

SHRIVELING AT THE BASE AND LOST LEAVES?

More than likely it stayed too wet in cool weather. Try to salvage by making a cutting. Propagation by cutting is easy. Cut end shoots and let dry for a day or two. Be careful of the sap. Stick shoots into a pot of moist soil, and provide bottom heat. Keep soil slightly moist but not soggy.

FIRST THINGS FIRST...

When your plant arrives from Roberta's, remove from the shipping box immediately.

Remove plastic bag and sleeve from around potted plant(s). Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Pull away any yellow or brown leaves that may have occurred during transit. If you can not plant it into garden or larger pot within a few days, make sure it stays well watered.

When ready to plant, do the job as early in the day as possible to avoid extreme soil temperatures that prevent proper water uptake from the roots. Water them in well and whisper a few words of wisdom.

Thank you for your order!

Take your gardening experience to new heights by visiting Roberta's Unique Gardens. Our goal is to enhance your gardening enjoyment by providing you with top quality, leading edge perennials and annuals that are suitable for your garden and home with the best service imaginable.

Roberta's is a 4th generation family owned business and has been one of the leading commercial exhibitors at flower and garden shows for over 50 years in the U.S. and abroad. We search the globe to find easy-to-grow plants that are unique in themselves or their variety making them nearly impossible to find elsewhere. Our passion and commitment continually asks the question, "What makes a better, unsurpassed, and more beautiful flower to behold?"

Working with growers and breeders from all over the world, Roberta's is able to bring you hard-to-find plants and new species that will be sweethearts for years to come.

Thank you for bringing us into your home,

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Thank you
for bringing us into your home

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ROBERTA'S GARDENS
PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



Sabi Star Sahara Desert
Gemini Rose (*Adenium*
hybrids)

QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE:	Full to Partial
USDA HARDINESS ZONES:	10-11
PLANTING DISTANCE:	24-36 inches
MATURE HEIGHT/SPREAD:	Height - 1-3' / 6" per year Spread - 1-2'
BLOOM TIME:	Summer - Winter
PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS: (soil preparation, depth, which end is up, etc.)	Remove plastic bag and sleeve from around potted plant(s). These plants prefer a shallow pot as opposed to a deep pot. When nights stay above 50 degrees, place your plants outside.

PLANTING GUIDE

1
STEP

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2
STEP

These plants prefer a shallow pot as opposed to a deep pot. They prefer a wide pot as opposed to a narrow pot. They do best in clay or ceramic as opposed to plastic. Try to avoid letting a catch dish ever sit with water in it to prevent rotting out. It is recommended to use an eight inch wide pot that is no deeper than four inches. This is a typical cactus type pot.

3
STEP

When nights stay above 50 degrees place your plants outside and leave them there all summer long- the hotter the better. They like full sun in the summer though partial sun is fine too.

4
STEP

In the winter inside the home, water only once every two weeks.

CONTINUING CARE

SHELF LIFE

Remove plastic bag and sleeve from around potted plant(s). Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Pull away any yellow or brown leaves that may have occurred during transit. If you can not plant it into garden or larger pot within a few days, make sure it stays well watered.

POTTED PLANTS

Adenium like pots that allow their soil to dry rapidly and to allow room for their swollen base or caudex to expand. These plants prefer a shallow pot as opposed to a deep pot. They prefer a wide pot as opposed to a narrow pot. They do best in clay or ceramic as opposed to plastic. Try to avoid letting a catch dish ever sit with water in it to prevent rotting out. It is recommended to use an eight inch wide pot that is no deeper than four inches. This is a typical cactus type pot. Gradually every year or two you can increase the pot size if you want a bigger plant.

SOIL

They like cactus mix the best. Otherwise bagged potting mixes for houseplants that will drain well work fine too. Most garden centers carry various brand names with perlite, vermiculite, soil and sand.

GARDEN PREPARATION

If you live where it rarely dips below 45 degrees, they may be planted directly into the garden after at least 3 years. If your soil is clayish amend it with a standard garden soil for adequate drainage.

PLANTING SPACING

Space them 2 to 3 feet apart in the garden.

PLANT HEIGHT AND WIDTH

These can grow 6 inches per year up to 3 feet tall and 1 to 2 feet wide.

WATER

Water them as if they were coleus or tomato plants while they're growing in hot weather, but as if they were delicate, rot-prone cacti during winter. Adeniums are extremely susceptible to rot when watered too frequently during cool weather or if chronically waterlogged at any season. Use of a well-drained potting medium prevents most rotting problems.

FERTILIZER

To promote more flowers use a well balanced fertilizer like Roberta's Flower Magic Plant Food (M7503) once a week April through October. They enjoy leaf feeding as often as you like.

LIGHTING

Full or partial sun is best in summer. In winter months bright diffused light is more than sufficient.

BLOOMING

These will bloom in the summer of the first season through out early winter.

TEMPERATURE ZONE 10 to 11

Although Adenium is a popular houseplant in temperate regions it requires a sunny location outside in summer. When nights stay above 50 degrees place your plants outside and leave them there all summer long- the hotter

and sunnier the better. The point is they like a change in day to night temperatures to grow and bloom properly. When temperatures drop below 50 degrees in the autumn, bring your plants inside. If you live where nights rarely drop below 40 to 50 degrees, you can leave your plants outside year round.

WINTER SEASON

In the winter inside the home, water only once every two weeks.

PRUNING

Little or no pruning is necessary. If you do decide to prune a branch that is too long do so in the spring. The plant will emit a milky sap. Let it callous naturally. Your plant will branch into multiple shoots just below the cut.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE



Desert Flower
Shipped
As Shown



Pink Arabian Picotee



Red Sea



Swaziland Princess Yellow

CAUTION: Not all plant material is edible. Though most plants are harmless, some contain toxic substances which can cause headaches, nausea, dizziness, or other discomforts. As a general rule, only known food products should be eaten. In case of ingestion on any other plant or flower, please contact your local poison center at once and advise them of the plant ingested. Keep out of reach of children and pets.