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## <u>Cultural Information- Calliandra</u> (kal-ee-AN-druh)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure.
Temperature:	Maintain temperatures above 40°.
Humidity:	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate low levels with no harm.
Watering:	Bring the soil to a state of visual dryness between watering, and then thoroughly saturate the soil until a little water runs from the bottom of the pot. They need a period of dryness between watering to keep their roots healthy. They suffer when dried severely, especially when fertilizer salts are high in the soil. For this reason, close attention needs to be paid to the frequency of watering. They need a period of dryness between watering to keep their roots healthy.
Fertilizer:	Moderate to low amounts of fertilizer on a continuous basis. Fertilize with ¼ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a week of a balanced fertilizer when in active growth and temperatures are warm. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like Dyna-Gro Liquid Plant Food 7-9-5. Discontinue feeding in the winter, especially under short days and cool night temperatures.
Pruning:	Repot once the plant has completely filled the pot, any time of the year, especially when growth is excessive.
Insects and Disease:	High susceptibility to aphids and mealy bug.
Comments:	Calliandra haematocephala flowers on the shortening day length of fall. Don't prune it after mid summer and allow it to grow in an area that gets only natural light. Under short day lengths or nighttime conditions foliage will fold up. Once light levels are adequate, foliage will unfold.