



## Hanging Baskets

Tips for Long-Lasting, Colorful Baskets & Planters Summer to Fall

### How much should I water?

- April & May - water every 1 to 3 days depending on the weather. Don't water if the soil is sopping wet.
- June thru October - water daily rain or shine. Soil Moist can be used to cut watering to every other day. You may have to water twice a day if the temperature is over 95 degrees and the plants are wilting.

### What kind of Fertilizer should I use and how much?

- **Bonide Guard and Grow** is great for hanging baskets. Use it every 6 weeks at the rate of 1/2 cup per 12" basket for proven insect control with slow release fertilizer.
- Another great option is to use **Young's Slow Release** fertilizer every 6 to 8 weeks at the recommended rate on the package.
- For spectacular baskets also add **Fertilome Blooming & Rooting Food** at least once a week at the rate of one teaspoon per gallon of water.

### What to do about bugs?

- Unseen bugs left unchecked will make your baskets lose their vibrant color and look tired. You need to eliminate bugs from June thru September.
- Easy no-spray remedy: For aphids, thrips & spider mites sprinkle 1/2 cup **Bonide Guard & Grow** for each 12" basket every 6 weeks. Water without letting water run thru excessively for first 5 days, then normal watering afterwards.
- Alternative: mix 2 Tbs. **Bonide Rose Systemic Drench** per gallon of water. Water with this mix monthly when the basket is moist to get good absorption. Use when temperature is below 80 degrees.
- If you notice flowers being eaten, mix and spray baskets to the point of runoff with **Bonide Capt. Jack's Deadbug**. Budworms are the culprits and especially like petunias and geraniums.
- Slugs & earwigs eat both foliage and flowers in planters; **Corry's Bug Bait** is the most effective remedy.
- Dust or spray with **Sevin** if yellow "ladybugs" (cucumber beetles) are seen on the plants.

### Should I dead-head or cut the plants back?

- Depending on the plants in your basket you may or may not need to dead-head. Ask Youngs to recommend baskets that do not need dead-heading if you want easy care. Baskets can be cut back for shaping or fullness. Youngs cuts baskets back several times while growing, so severe pruning is unnecessary.

### Is there an easy way to prevent one-sided baskets?

- For uniform growth and bloom use a **swivel hanger** available at Youngs.