

How to care for your *Dan Schantz Farm* Grown

# Poinsettia



*Here's a general care guide for your Poinsettia plant, once you get it home*



## Watering Basics:

**Put your finger in the soil. If it's wet, wait a day or so. If it's dry, water it immediately. Water it enough to have the water run through the soil. Then let it drain. Don't let it sit in water. It prefers to get a little dry ( emphasis on the word LITTLE) between waterings.**

**No need to fertilize it, your Poinsettia already has all the nutrients it needs.**

**Poinsettias need space and good air flow. Remove any tight wrapping (sleeves) or tall pot covers.**

## Placement:

**Keeping your Poinsettia in a bright window will keep the bright color of your plant. But it will last beyond Christmas, even if you put it in the corner of a darker room.**

**Starting in September, Poinsettias need equal hours of light vs total darkness to be able to bloom!**

“ are they poisonous?”

**NO.**



**Unless you are planning on eating 5 pounds or more in one sitting. They will not harm your cat, dog, bird, goldfish or hamster. I wouldn't suggest a steady diet of them, but they are not poisonous.**

**Please look this up, do research.. We aren't kidding on this.**

“Eating the Poinsettia didn't make him sick. It was the 3 pounds of potting soil”

## Can I keep them from year to year?

**You can if you wish, but they are not easy (or attractive, for that matter) when growing indoors all year.**

**They are a tropical plant, and need to be outside in the summer and brought indoors in fall.**

**Feed them, keep them pinched and in a sunny spot. Don't let them dry out- ever.**

**They are a natural shrub in many tropical areas of the world. ( see history below)**



In 1825, the poinsettia came to the United States. Joel Roberts Poinsett, the first American ambassador to Mexico, saw the flower during a botanical expedition in that country and sent cuttings back to his native South Carolina. Because of this, the flower came to be called the poinsettia. However, its greatest boost in popularity came in the early 20th century, when the Ecke family of southern California began to sell the flowers on a large scale to all parts of the United States.

## Poinsettia Trivia!

**The name “Poinsettia” is always spelled with a capital P, since it was named after a real person, Joel Roberts Poinsett- who was from South Carolina.**

**The actual “flower” of the Poinsettia is the tiny buds in the center of the colorful leaves.**

**National Poinsettia Day is December 12.**

**There are currently around 220 varieties on the market.**

**Red still outsells any other color. Mostly women purchase Poinsettias**

**We start growing small cutting of Poinsettias in June. They are finished size starting November 1st.**