

<http://www.midtowncarnivores.com>

**GENERAL CARE:** Place your plant's pot into a bowl or container, and add water to the container until the water is ~¼ of the way up the side of the pot. Place the pot and its bowl indoors on a sunny windowsill, in an area of bright sunlight, away from roof overhangs or other structures that may block sunlight at different parts of the day. (Or, place the pot indoors under an artificial light source.) After the water has evaporated, add water again to the same level and proceed.



**WATER:** Pygmy *Drosera* plants require water with under 50 parts per million (ppm) of total dissolved solids (TDS). Steam-distilled water (available at pharmacies & groceries), reverse-osmosis water and collected rainwater are three recommended types. If using tap- or garden hose water, check its TDS level with a handheld meter to ensure that it is <50 ppm. NEVER use “nursery water,” “spring water” or “mineral water” as these have added ions that will severely and irreparably harm your plants over time. (TDS meters are available on our online store under [SEEDS AND SUPPLIES: OTHER.](#))

**LIGHT:** Growing outdoors is an easy way of providing the right type of light for your plants. Sunlight is optimal, but placement is also important. Choose an open location where your plants can receive gradually increasing amounts of sunlight as the day progresses. (For a more controlled environment, fluorescent lighting can be used as an indoor alternative.) For several plants, a fluorescent ballast may be used, but for fewer plants, a desk lamp with a compact fluorescent tube (CFT) bulb should be fine. I recommend a “Daylight” spectrum bulb, rather than a “bright white” or “soft white.” Plants should receive at least 14 hours of light per day. We advise using an outlet timer. Keep the plant 6”-12” away from the bulb, so that it receives enough light to thrive, but not so much heat that the leaves dry out.

**MEDIA:** Pygmy *Drosera* requires acidic, nutrient-poor growing media (soil), with good drainage to prevent root rot. A mix of sphagnum peat moss and perlite (1:1 ratio) is recommended. A mix of sphagnum peat moss and horticultural sand (1:1) may also be used. NEVER use fertilizers, Miracle-Gro products (including their peat moss and perlite) or gardening/potting soil, as these contain minerals that WILL kill your plants in a matter of days.

**WHAT TO EXPECT:** Plants will grow new leaves through the warm, sunny months. New leaves will grow from the plant's center. Older leaves will brown and die off. In late autumn, leaf production will halt, and a batch of small green gemmae will emerge from the center of the plant. (See picture above) When ripe, these can be dislodged with a toothpick; be careful, they're designed to flick off long distances when touched, so be careful when harvesting them. Gemmae can be placed directly on top of the soil. Each will form a new plant during the ensuing growth season. (Or, **if using artificial light:** Plants will continually produce new leaves, and can keep growing in these conditions indefinitely.) In mid-Spring, a vertical flower stalk may uncurl from the plant that looks nothing like a leaf. Enjoy the flower(s), but be aware that a pygmy sundew's primary reproduction method is through gemmae; growing from seed is difficult.

For any questions, please contact us at any time:



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We also recommend the following from our [SEEDS AND SUPPLIES](#) section of our online store:

[CARNIVOROUS PLANT MIX #1 AND #4](#)

[TDS METER](#)