

Cacti and Succulents

Cacti: An assortment of cacti are supplied and the following genus and species may be found in your shipment:

Astrophytum ornatum

Coleocephalocereus aureus

Mammillaria bahniiana

Parodia haselbergii

Rebutia pseudodeminuta

Rebutia neocumingii

Family: Cactaceae

Order: Caryophyllales

Class: Magnoliopsida

Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Kingdom: Plantae

Aloe:

Species: *vera*

Genus: *Aloe*

Family: Aloaceae

Order: Liliales

Class: Liliopsida

Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Kingdom: Plantae

Conditions for Customer Ownership

We hold permits allowing us to transport these organisms. To access permit conditions, [click here](#).

Never purchase living specimens without having a disposition strategy in place.

There are currently no USDA permits required for this organism. In order to protect our environment, never release a live laboratory organism into the wild.

Primary Hazard Considerations

Handle with care; cacti have sharp spines that can pierce the skin.

Availability

- Individual *Aloe* are shipped in plastic pots with soil. The potted plant is sealed in a plastic bag and wrapped in corrugated cardboard. Upon receipt remove the potted plant from the bag and water immediately.
- Cacti and succulents are in plastic pots with soil and are packaged as a set of five in a 15 x 15 x 15 cm cardboard box.

Care

- **Watering:** Cacti should be watered well, but not frequently. When kept indoors water when dry, (plant will lift out of pot) then water well with tepid water. Cacti and succulents require less water during prolonged periods of dull weather. The best time to water cacti and succulents is early in the morning of a sunny day. Always age tap water at least 24 hours before using to water plants.
- **Heat and Light:** Cacti flourish under bright indirect sunlight. Exceptions to this rule are *Aloe* and very small cacti, which should not be put in strong sunlight. Keep *Aloe* in filtered sun or full shade. *Aloe* is a semitropical succulent and must be kept from freezing.
- **Fertilizers:** Any good water-soluble fertilizer may be applied at regular intervals, once a month in the summer and once every two months in the winter. We do not recommend the use of fertilizers in tablet form.
- **Potting and transplanting:** Cacti and succulents grow best in small pots and should never be planted in too large a pot. All cacti and succulents supplied will flourish for several years in the pots in which they are sold. A simple way to make a cactus garden is to arrange the potted plants on a bed of stones or a piece of pottery in a large dish and fill in around with sand. A [Terrarium](#) can be used to house cacti. Transplant cacti and succulents only in the spring. A good potting mixture is three parts [Potting Soil](#) and one part coarse [Sand](#).

Life Cycle

- Cactus-dicotyledon. The flowers of cacti come in all shapes and sizes, some attracting a specific pollinator, including moths, bats, humming birds, and bees.
- *Aloe*-monocotyledon. Though *Aloe vera* has been used to treat wounds and burns, evidence of its effects is limited.
- Succulents-dicotyledon. One of the largest families of plants containing 300 genera and 7500 species.

Wild Habitat

- Cacti are mostly found in North America, South America and the Caribbean.
- It is believed that *Aloe* originated in South Africa and occurs in other temperate and tropical regions, as a result of human cultivation.
- Succulents occur mostly in the tropics but many species are found in the Mediterranean, Middle East, South Africa, and the southern United States.

Disposition

We do not recommend releasing any laboratory specimen into the wild, and especially not specimens that are not native to the environment. When finished with your plant please dispose of it by incineration in a well-ventilated area.