



South Pacific Orchids, Inc. 南太平洋蘭花盆景有限公司

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Michelia Alba

Do you miss the fragrance of Michelia Alba of your home town ?
You can enjoy the same pleasure here in the U.S. !

Originated in the Himalayas , Michelia Alba is an ever green plant that blossing all seasons. Because of its graceful figure and nice fragrance, it is beloved by oriental people. It is the most ideal ornamental plant for family courtyard.

Michelia Alba was the first brought into the west Coast of the United States by Chinese about decades ago. It belongs to the 8th Hardiness Zone, where the annual temperature ranges from 10 to 20 Fahrenheit, so 80 percent area of California and most of South America are suitable for the plant. These years, many Chinese American homes in Bay Area have planted this plant and some of the trees are over 25 feet tall . In the East Coast of U.S. where it snows, it may be planted in flowerpot.

**It is not very difficult to plant Michelia Alba
as long as you have some knowledge of its habits and characteristics**

- (1)**CLIMATE:** Mild and humid, in the temperature range of 35 F to 85 F. Not subject to strong sunshine as it Prefers cool weather. In the area where it frosts in winter, it requires cover to shelter the frost. In the area where it snows, the pot plant should be moved indoor and placed where there is sunshine(but not to be kept warm by fan heater, otherwise the leaves would wither.)A single plant shorter than 6 feet may not be planted into the ground.
- (2)**SUNLIGHT:** Prefers mild sunlight to hot sunlight. News plant should never be under strong sunshine and should be kept under the shade of tree where there is no strong wind. It is better to grow the plant under sun screen for the first 2 years.
- (3)**WATER:** The root of Michelia Alba is fleshy and is as vulnerable as bean sprouts. In summer when it is warm and dry, it may be watered once every 4 to 7 days and the soil should be thoroughly drenched every time. The watering frequency of water should be reduced in Spring and Fall. On the other hand, over watering will cause damage to the ventilation system of the plant and the root can become rotten. When the tips of leaves appear to be scorching brown, it may mean too much water or not enough water and should be taken care of.
- (4)**SOIL:** Soil should be rich in rotten plants such as slightly fermented soil with good seepage function. The local soil is mostly hard clay and not good for seepage. If it is planted to the ground, the hole should be wide and deep enough (twice the size of container). And its better to select the potting soil with sand and which is good for seepage. Our company has specially prepared soil called "York-Lan Max #1".
- (5)**FERTILIZER:** Michelia Alba likes natural fertilizer. Every two months in spring and summer, some organic fertilizer such as soy bean powder and bones blood meal should be applied. Some acid fertilizer may also be applied monthly. Winter is the hibernation season and no fertilizer should be applied.
The fertilizers recommended:
(I) Organic fertilizer :
(II) Inorganic fertilizer :
(a) Hydro Prill (15-15-15) 1 to 2 tea spoons once every month.
- (6)**INSECT CONTROL:** the new and young leaves of the plant may invite aphids. Regular insecticide such as Ortho Malathion 50 plus (diluted with water) may be applied when necessary.

For newly repotted plant, those roots are still in the growing and developing period, we suggest that the plants be placed where there is a little shade and cool without strong wind, such as under large trees, do not over water the plants. It's better to plant the tree into the ground when the plant it is over 6 feet high.

For Order Information:
(408)842-5111
9:00 AM ~ 5:00 PM

