

# General Care and Handling of Potted and Green Plants

## **When plants are received:**

1. Unpack shipments as soon as possible.
2. Remove packaging sleeves.
3. Record and report damage (including extreme temperatures and physical damage.)

## **Watering:**

Improper watering is the number one problem with plants at the retail/supermarket level!

1. Water all plants after unpacking.
2. Water plants until water is draining out of the holes on the bottom of the pot.
3. Do not leave plants sitting in water for extended periods of time.
4. Check soil daily:  
Push your finger 1 inch into soil. If the soil feels moist, the plant does not need watering. If the soil feels dry, then watering is required.  
Watering requirements vary by variety of plant.
5. To complete the hydration process, spray plants with Floralife FloralMist®.

## **Fertilizer:**

Most potted plants arrive to stores over-fertilized and need to be watered upon arrival (this will leach the soil). There is no need to fertilize most plants at the store level. A general purpose fertilizer can be used by consumers.

## **Storage:**

### Temperature:

In general, potted plants should not be stored at 34-38F at the store level (there are exceptions). Storage of plants varies between crops, so when in doubt, leave plants at room temperature (68-70F). Check with your plant source for recommendations concerning specific crops.

### Light:

Display plants under a combination of 80% fluorescent: 20% incandescent light (wattage ratio). This brings out the true colors of the plants. Consumer's light levels to maintain the size and fullness of plants vary between varieties. Check specific requirements for each plant.