Growing your *Cyrtosperma cuspidispatham*

*Cyrtosperma cuspidispatham* is a large aroid with lush light green foliage and spectacular rich purple inflorescences. Its native range includes New Guinea and Indonesia. It is a plant of swampy margins and grows among other plants which give it protection from full sun exposure.

Sow your seed as soon as possible on arrival. This is not a species that appreciates its seed drying out, so always maintain consistent moisture levels. Sow on a well rained medium such as a mixture of 50% Potting mix and 50% coarse river sand or 75% river sand and 25% peat moss.

Sieve some sand over the top of the seed so that the seed is just covered. Water in well and keep moist at all times.

When the first true leaf has matured, pot your seedlings into 50 – 75mm pots using a good quality potting mix, add the recommended amount of slow release potting mix and water in well. Keep your seedlings in bright filtered light and liquid feed them with a high nitrogen fertiliser monthly.

As your plants mature, move them into some morning sun, but not too much. If the foliage yellows reduce the light levels. Keep your plants well fertilised, liquid fertiliser through the warmer months will help lush up the foliage. Remember, this is a swamp plant, don’t let it dry out.

The main pests of this plant are Mealy bug, which may be wiped off with a cotton bud dipped in Mentholated spirit or sprayed with a systemic chemical such as Dimethoate, and Chewing insects such as Grasshoppers and Caterpillars which may be removed by hand or sprayed with Carbaryl.

Best of success with your plant, do contact me if I can be of any further help.

Regards

Steve

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