

Instructions for Rooting Plumeria & Frangipani Cuttings

Plumeria & Frangipani cuttings are available from our stock in California and in Hawaii. It is best to order cuttings in the spring and start them when the weather begins to warm. Once a cutting is made from the tree it is allowed to dry for 2 weeks. The cut end forms a calus. We have had success rooting our plumeria cuttings as follows:

Materials:

- One gallon black plastic nursery pot (good for most 18-24" cuttings)
- Superthrive
- Lava Rock (small size)
- Cactus Mix Soil
- Root Tone or other rooting hormone powder
- Bamboo Stake and green plastic tie
- Felt Barrier
- Perlite
- Hand shovel
- Watering Can

Procedure:

Place the cut end of cutting in 2 inches of solution of Superthrive (1mL/galon water) and let it soak for 5 minutes. Prepare the one gallon pot by first placing the felt barrier at the bottom and adding 2 inches of small lava rock. Next add the cactus mix to the pot to bring the volume up to 1-2 inches from the top. Water the pot with the superthrive solution until it is thoroughly moist and the water drains out the bottom.

Use the end of the hand shovel to create an indented space into the center of the moist cactus mix that is 4-5" deep and 2" wide. Place a few inches of perlite into the space. Remove the cutting from the superthrive solution and shake off excess water. Dip the cut end in the root tone powder then position the cutting into the middle of the pot in the bed of perlite so that it is 3" down from the top of the cactus mix. Add a small additional amount of perlite around the cutting so the cut end is completely surrounded by perlite then top off the perlite with a small amount of cactus mix to bring the volume up to 1-2 inches from the top. Place a bamboo stake to support the cutting and tie it with green plastic nursery tape in 2 -3 spots as needed.

Complete the process by watering the staked supported cutting gently. Place the pot on a concrete surface in partial sun for the first week and then ramp the cutting up to full sun after that. Lightly mist the growth tip with a solution of superthrive every few days, however avoid the temptation of watering the pot until leaves start to develop. The energy to root the plumeria is in the branch and over watering at this delicate stage in contra-indicated as it can lead to root rot.

We begin to water the cutting as the first few sets of leaves are 4-6 inches long. It should be noted that in the first year a rooted cuttings life, flower formation usually does not start unless an inflorescence bud is present on the growth tip when the cutting was taken from the tree. The main focus for the newly rooted cutting should be on developing a good root system. The health

of the plumeria begins with the roots first. So what the roots want should dictate how to treat the plumeria.

Please email or call us with any questions you have on rooting your plumeria.