

Heart of Jacksonville AVS 11/2006

AFRICAN VIOLET SOIL MIXES

Mix Containing Soil (from AVSA magazine)

6 quarts potting mix
3 quarts Perlite
1 quart Vermiculite
1/4 quart ground eggshells
1/4 quart charcoal
1 tablespoon Superphosphate

Soilless Mix (from AVSA magazine)

3 parts Canadian sphagnum peat moss
2 parts Vermiculite
1 part Perlite
1/4 part ground charcoal
2 tablespoons dolomite lime
1 tablespoons bone meal
1 tablespoons Superphosphate

Another Soilless Mix (from AVSA magazine)

1 gallon peat moss
1 gallon Vermiculite
1 gallon Perlite
8 tablespoons dolomite lime
1 cup charcoal
4 teaspoon Ferbam

(**Ferbam:** [Fungicide](#) sometimes used for controlling fungi such as [Botrytis](#) and [Powdery Mildew](#). Because Ferbam can stain the leaves of African Violets, however, other fungicides are recommended, i.e., [Benomyl](#) or [Captan](#). Ferbam is classified for [general use](#) by the EPA.)

Leaf Starter Mix (from AVSA magazine)

2 parts Vermiculite
1 part Perlite
1 part charcoal

Yet another mix

(this is probably used by more people than any other)

1 part Vermiculite
1 part Perlite
1 part peat moss

Pat Hancock's Super Soil Recipe

3 gallons of Sphagnum Peat Moss (sterilized)
1 gallon Humus type soil (could use sterilized compost for this)
3-1/2 gallons of coarse, washed perlite
2 gallons of coarse vermiculite
1/2 cup dehydrated cow manure
1 32 ounce bag of Schultz Horticultural charcoal
1 pound package of "Super Soil Substance"

Moisten peat and humus with water. Cover with aluminum foil and bake at 180 degrees internal temperature. I set my oven at 400 degrees and bake for one hour. Let cool and add dehydrated cow manure, charcoal and "Super Soil Substance". Mix these ingredients thoroughly before adding washed perlite and vermiculite. If you wick your violets, you may want to add another 1/2 to 1 gallon of perlite. You may use immediately as "Super Soil" is organic and will not burn. Makes approximately 10 gallons of soil.

For small plants and leaves; Cut with one part coarse perlite and one part coarse vermiculite.

Do not water with fertilizer water for about one month and after that only 1/8 teaspoon per gallon. At show time you may increase fertilizer to 1/4 teaspoon per gallon.

Pat Hancock's Super Soil substance may be obtained from:

Pat Hancock
P.O. Box 8085
West Chester, Ohio 45069