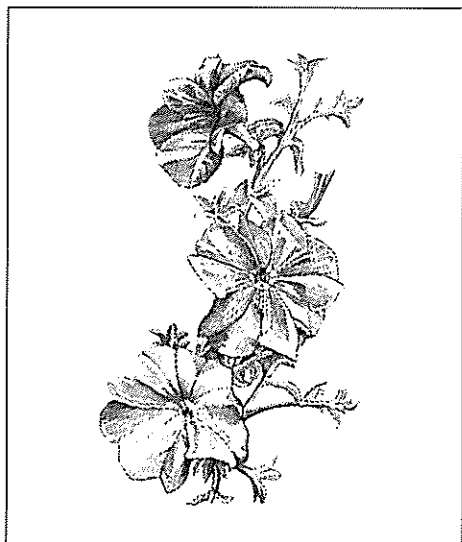


PETUNIA



Most species are native to the southern portions of South America. The name petunia was an aboriginal name.

Botanical Name *Petunia x hybrida*

Ethylene Sensitivity Yes

Storage Temperature 35-40°F

Storage Time 3 days

Purchasing Hints Plants with yellow or twisting leaves should be discarded. Root systems should be well-developed and free of abnormally dark or water-soaked leaves, which is a symptom of overwatering.

Special Concerns Water stress can be a serious problem, since some varieties do not exhibit wilting symptoms. The growing medium should be kept uniformly moist. Many cultivars are susceptible to ozone, an air pollutant commonly found in urban environments. The use of certain growth retardants on petunias at grower level can reduce ozone-induced damages.

Additional Information Plants can be displayed in bright light or slight shade but they should not dry out since leaf yellowing and bud drop may occur. Many cultivars are tolerant to high fertilizer levels (salts). Pruning plants is highly recommended, as this will encourage new growth and delay plant death. Normal levels of chlorine found in drinking waters are not harmful.