

# Cacti and Succulents

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## **Cacti (470176-330):**

An assortment of cacti are supplied and the following genus and species may be found in your shipment:

*Astrophytum ornatum*  
*Coleocephalocereus aureus*  
*Mammillaria hahniana*  
*Parodia haselbergii*  
*Rebutia pseudodeminuta*  
*Rebutia neocumingii*

**Family:** Cactaceae  
**Order:** Caryophyllales  
**Class:** Magnoliopsida  
**Phylum:** Magnoliophyta  
**Kingdom:** Plantae

**Aloe:**  
**Species:** *vera*  
**Genus:** *Aloe*  
**Family:** Aloaceae  
**Order:** Liliales  
**Class:** Liliopsida  
**Phylum:** Magnoliophyta  
**Kingdom:** Plantae

## **Conditions for Customer Ownership**

We are a USDA compliant facility and hold all necessary permits to transport our organisms. Each state is assisted by the USDA to determine which organisms can be transported across state lines. Some organisms may require end-user permits. Please contact your local regulatory authorities with questions or concerns. To access permit conditions, [click here](#).

**Never purchase living specimens without having a disposition strategy in place.** Live specimens should not be released into the wild! Please dispose of any unwanted organisms using the guidelines below.

## **Primary Hazard Considerations**

Handle with care, cacti have sharp spines that can pierce the skin.

## **Availability**

- Individual *Aloe* are shipped in plastic pots with soil. The potted plant is sealed in a plastic bag and wrapped in corrugated cardboard. Upon receipt remove the potted plant from the bag and water immediately.
- Cacti and succulents are in plastic pots with soil and are packaged as a set of five in a 15 x 15 x 15 cm cardboard box.

## **Care**

- **Watering:** *Cacti* should be watered well, but not frequently. When kept indoors water when dry, (plant will lift out of pot) then water well with tepid water. *Cacti* and succulents require less water during prolonged periods of dull weather. The best time to water *Cacti* and succulents is early in the morning of a sunny day. Always age tap water at least 24 hours before using to water plants.
- **Heat and Light:** *Cacti* flourish under bright indirect sunlight. Exceptions to this rule are *Aloe* and very small *Cacti*, which should not be put in strong sunlight. Keep *Aloe* in filtered sun or full shade. *Aloe* is a semitropical succulent and must be kept from freezing.
- **Fertilizers:** Any good water-soluble fertilizer may be applied at regular intervals, once a month in the summer and once every two months in the winter. We do not recommend the use of fertilizers in tablet form.
- **Potting and transplanting:** *Cacti* and succulents grow best in small pots and should never be planted in too large a pot. All *Cacti* and succulents supplied will flourish for several years in the pots in which they are sold. A simple way to make a cactus garden is to arrange the potted plants on a bed of stones or a piece of pottery in a large dish and fill in around with sand. A terrarium can be used to house *Cacti*. Transplant *Cacti* and succulents only in the spring. A good potting mixture is three parts potting soil (470014-674) and one part coarse sand (470057-824).

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## Life Cycle

- **Cactus-dicotyledon:** The flowers of cacti come in all shapes and sizes, some attracting a specific pollinator, including moths, bats, humming birds, and bees.
- **Aloe-monocotyledon:** Though Aloe vera has been used to treat wounds and burns, evidence of its effects is limited.
- **Succulents-dicotyledon:** One of the largest families of plants containing 300 genera and 7500 species.

## Wild Habitat

- *Cacti* are mostly found in North America, South America and the Caribbean.
- It is believed that *Aloe* originated in South Africa and occurs in other temperate and tropical regions, as a result of human cultivation.
- Succulents occur mostly in the tropics but many species are found in the Mediterranean, Middle East, South Africa, and the southern United States.

## Disposition

We do not recommend releasing any laboratory specimen into the wild, and especially not specimens that are not native to the environment. When finished with your plant please dispose of it by incineration in a well-ventilated area.