



Opinions on Plant Irrigation Requirements¹

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In 1997, Dr. Richard Beeson, Jr. of the Mid-Florida Research and Education Center--Apopka conducted a survey with the assistance of Florida Nurserymen & Growers Association, Southwest Florida Water Management District, Tampa Bay Wholesale Growers, and about 90 respondents in Florida to ascertain the combined *opinions* of the relative irrigation requirement of container-grown plants during production. Information from the survey provided background information for research on nursery water use, which Dr. Beeson is continuing. The nursery personnel were asked by questionnaire to indicate if the plants they had experience with required low, medium, or high levels of irrigation *during production*. The responses per plant ranged from a few up to 65 for *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*. In most cases, the responses were within one of the irrigation categories. When the majority of responses did not fall within one category, a range spanning two categories is indicated (e.g., low-medium).

The following table summarizes the nursery industry estimates of plant irrigation requirements (low, medium, high). Keep in mind that these irrigation categories are industry estimates based on questionnaire responses and not controlled scientific measurements.

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Table 1. Plant Irrigation Requirements (based on survey of nursery personnel).

<u>Botanical Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Relative Plant Irrigation Requirement (high, medium, low)</u>
<i>Abelia x grandiflora</i>	Glossy Abelia	medium
<i>Abutilon hybridum</i>	Chinese-Lantern	medium
<i>Acalpha hispida</i>	Chenille Plant	medium
<i>Acalypha wilkesiana</i>	Copper Leaf	medium
<i>Acca sellowiana</i>	Pineapple Guava	medium
<i>Adenium obesum</i>	Desert Rose	low
<i>Adiantum</i> spp.	Maidenhair Fern species	high
<i>Aechmea</i> spp.	Bromeliad	low
<i>Aeonium</i> spp.	Velvet Rose	low
<i>Aeschynanthus pulcher</i>	Lipstick Plant	medium-high
<i>Agapanthus praecox</i> var. <i>orientalis</i>	Agapanthus	low-medium
<i>Agave</i> spp.	Agave species	low
<i>Ageratum houstonianum</i>	Ageratum	low-medium
<i>Aglaonema commutatum</i>	Aglaonema or Chinese Evergreen	low-medium
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugle-weed	low-medium
<i>Allamanda cathartica</i>	Allamanda-Brown Bud	medium
<i>Allamanda neriifolia</i>	Allamanda-Bush	medium
<i>Alocasia amazonica</i>	Elephant Ear	medium
<i>Alocasia cuprea</i>	Bronze Alocasia	medium
<i>Alocasia frydek</i>	Elephant Ear	medium
<i>Alocasia sandariana</i>	Sander's Elephant Ear	medium
<i>Alocasia x sedenii</i>	-----	medium -high

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<i>Alsophila australis</i>	Australian Tree Fern	high
<i>Alternanthera ficoidea</i>	Alternanthera	medium
<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>	Norfolk Island Pine	low
<i>Ardisia crenata</i>	Common Ardisia	low
<i>Ardisia crispa</i>	Curly Ardisia	low
<i>Ardisia pusilla</i>	Dwarf Ardisia	low
<i>Arundinaria pygmaea</i>	Dwarf Carpet Bamboo	low-medium
<i>Aspidistra elatior</i>	Cast Iron Plant	low
<i>Bambusa glaucescens</i>	Hedge Bamboo	low
<i>Bambusa textilis</i>	Giant Clumping Bamboo	low-medium
<i>Bambusa tuldooides</i>	Tuldooides Bamboo	low
<i>Bambusa ventricosa</i>	Buddha Belly Bamboo	low
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> 'Atropurpurea nana'	Crimson Pigmy Barberry	low-medium
<i>Bougainvillea glabra</i>	Bougainvillea	low
<i>Brassaia actinophylla</i> (Now <i>Schefflera actinophylla</i>)	Common Schefflera	medium
<i>Breynia disticha</i>	Snow Bush	medium
<i>Browallia speciosa</i>	Sapphire Flower	medium
<i>Brugmansia x candida</i>	Angel's Trumpet	medium-high
<i>Brunfelsia pauciflora</i>	Yesterday-Today-and-Tomorrow	medium
<i>Buxus microphylla</i> var. <i>japonica</i>	Japanese Boxwood	low-medium
<i>Buxus microphylla</i> var. <i>koreana</i>	Korean Boxwood	low-medium
<i>Calamagrostis epigejos</i>	Reed Grass	low

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<u>Botanical Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Relative Plant Irrigation Requirement (high, medium, low)</u>
<i>Calliandra haematocephala</i>	Powderpuff	medium
<i>Callistemon</i> spp.	Bottlebrush species	medium
<i>Camellia japonica</i>	Camellia	low-medium
<i>Camellia sasanqua</i>	Camellia	medium
<i>Canna x generalis</i>	Common Canna	medium
<i>Canna flaccida</i>	Yellow Canna	medium
<i>Carissa grandiflora</i>	Dwarf Natal Plum	low
<i>Carissa macrocarpa</i>	Natal Plum	low
<i>Cassia fistula</i>	Golden Shower	medium
<i>Cephalotaxus harringtonia</i>	Harrington Plum Yew	low-medium
<i>Ceropegia woodii</i>	String of Hearts	low
<i>Cestrum nocturnum</i>	Night Jessamine	medium
<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	River Oats	medium
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Camphor	medium
<i>Cissus rhombifolia</i>	Grape Ivy	low-medium
<i>Cleyera japonica</i> (See <i>Ternstroemia</i>)	Japanese Cleyera	medium
<i>Clivia minata</i>	Kaffir Lily	low
<i>Columnnea microphylla</i>	Goldfish Vine	medium
<i>Cordyline terminalis</i>	Ti Plant	medium
<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i>	Calliopsis/Coreopsis	low-medium
<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	Pampas Grass	medium
<i>Cotoneaster</i> spp.	Cononeaster species	low

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<u>Botanical Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Relative Plant Irrigation Requirement (high, medium, low)</u>
<i>Cryptanthus</i> spp.	Earth Star species	low
<i>Cuphea hyssopifolia</i>	Blue Heather	high
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> 'Italica'	Italian Cypress	medium
<i>Curculigo capitulata</i>	Palm Grass	medium
<i>Cyperus alternifolius</i>	Papyrus	high
<i>Cyperus haspans</i>	Dwarf Papyrus	high
<i>Dianthus barbatus</i>	Sweet William	low-medium
<i>Duranta repens</i>	Golden Dewdrop	low-medium
<i>Echeveria</i> spp.	Echeveria species	low
<i>Elaeagnus pungens</i>	Silver Thorn	low-medium
<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Loquat	medium
<i>Eucalyptus cinerea</i>	Silver Dollar Eucalyptus	low
<i>Eugenia</i> spp.	Eugenia species	medium
<i>Euryops pectinatus</i>	Golden Shrub Daisy	medium
<i>Euryops pectinatus</i> 'Viridis'	Green-leaved Euryops	low-medium
<i>Eustoma grandiflorum</i>	Lisianthus	low-medium
<i>Evolvulus glomerata</i>	Blue Daze	medium
<i>Exacum affine</i>	Persian Violet	medium
<i>Faucaria tigrina</i>	Tiger's Jaws	low
<i>Ficus benjamina</i>	Weeping Fig	medium
<i>Ficus elastica</i>	Rubber Plant	medium
<i>Ficus lyrata</i>	Fiddle-leaved Fig	medium

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<u>Botanical Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Relative Plant Irrigation Requirement (high, medium, low)</u>
<i>Ficus nitida</i>	Cuban Laurel	medium
<i>Ficus pumila</i>	Creeping Fig	medium
<i>Ficus triangularis</i>	Triangle-leaved Fig	medium
<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>	Gaillardia	low
<i>Galphimia glauca</i>	Thryallis	medium
<i>Gamolepsis chrysanthemoides</i>	Bush Daisy	medium
<i>Gardenia augusta</i>	Gardenia	medium
<i>Gasteria</i> spp.	Gasteria species	low-medium
<i>Gazania rigens</i>	Gazania	low
<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	Carolina Jasmine	low-medium
<i>Gibasis geniculata</i>	Tahitian Bridal Veil	medium-high
<i>Gomphrena globosa</i>	Globe Amaranth	low-medium
<i>Gypsophila elegans</i>	Baby's Tears	medium
<i>Hamelia patens</i>	Firebush	low-medium
<i>Haworthia</i> spp.	Haworthia species	low
<i>Hedera canariensis</i>	Algerian Ivy	low
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English Ivy	low
<i>Helichrysum bracteatum</i>	Strawflower	low-medium
<i>Heliconia</i> spp.	Heliconia species	medium-high
<i>Hemerocallis</i> spp.	Daylily hybrids	medium
<i>Hemigraphis</i> 'Exotica'	Purple Waffle Plant	medium-high
<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>	Hibiscus	medium

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<i>Hibiscus</i> spp.	Mallow species and hybrids	medium
<i>Hibiscus syriacus</i>	Rose of Sharon	medium
<i>Homalomena</i> spp.	Homalomena species	medium-high
<i>Hoya carnososa</i>	Wax Plant	low
<i>Huernia</i> spp.	Dragon Flower species	low
<i>Hymenocallis latifolia</i>	Spider Lily	low
<i>Hypoestes phyllostachya</i>	Polka Dot Plant	low
<i>Ilex crenata</i> 'Compacta'	Compact Japanese Holly	low-medium
<i>Ilex crenata</i>	Japanese Holly	low-medium
<i>Ilex dimorphophylla</i>	Okinawan Holly	low
<i>Ilex vomitoria</i>	Yaupon Holly	low
<i>Illicium parviflorum</i>	Anise	medium
<i>Impatiens</i> (New Guinea hybrids)	New Guinea Impatiens	high
<i>Indocalamus tessellatus</i>	Long-leaved Bamboo	medium
<i>Ixora coccinea</i>	Ixora	medium
<i>Ixora taiwanensis</i>	Dwarf Ixora	medium
<i>Jasminum mesnyi</i>	Primrose Jasmine	medium
<i>Jasminum multiflorum</i>	Downy Jasmine	medium
<i>Jasminum nitidum</i>	Star Jasmine	medium
<i>Jasminum simplicifolium</i>	Wax Jasmine	medium
<i>Jatropha</i> spp.	Jatropha species	low-medium
<i>Juniperus chinensis</i>	Chinese Juniper	low

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<i>Juniperus conferta</i> 'Blue Pacific'	Blue Pacific Shore Juniper	low
<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i>	Creeping Juniper	low
<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> 'Tolleson's Blue Weeping'	Tolleson's Blue Weeping Juniper	low
<i>Juniperus silicicola</i>	Southern Red Cedar	low-medium
<i>Juniperus squamata</i> 'Star'	Star Juniper	low-medium
<i>Justicia brandegeana</i>	Shrimp Plant	medium
<i>Justicia carnea</i>	Plume Plant	medium
<i>Kniphofia uvaria</i>	Poker Plant	low
<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Crape Myrtle	medium
<i>Lantana camara</i>	Lavendar Lantana	low
<i>Lantana montevidensis</i>	Weeping Lantana	low-medium
<i>Lantana scoparium</i>	New Zealand Tea	low
<i>Leucophyllum frutescens</i>	Texas Sage	low
<i>Leucophyllum setaceum</i>	Texas Sage	low
<i>Ligustrum japonicum</i>	Ligustrum	medium
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i> 'Green'	Green Ligustrum	medium
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Sinensis	medium
<i>Ligustrum texanum</i>	Ligustrum	medium
<i>Limonium sinuatum</i>	Statice	low-medium
<i>Liriope muscari</i>	Liriope	low-medium
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese Honeysuckle	medium
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i> 'Serotina Florida'	Woodbine	low

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<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	Honeysuckle	low-medium
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	Golden Globe	medium
<i>Lysimachia punctata</i>	Golden Girl	low-medium
<i>Mandevilla splendens</i>	Mandevilla	medium
<i>Mandevilla x amabilis</i>	Dipladenia	medium
<i>Maranta leuconeura</i>	Red Maranta	medium-high
<i>Maranta leuconeura</i> var. <i>kerchoveana</i>	Green Maranta	high
<i>Melampodium paludosum</i> 'Medallion'	Melampodium	medium
<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	Wire Grass	low-medium
<i>Monstera deliciosa</i>	Split-leaved Philodendron	medium
<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>	Muhley Grass	medium
<i>Myrica cerifera</i>	Wax Myrtle	medium-high
<i>Myrtus communis</i>	True Myrtle	medium
<i>Nageia nagi</i>	Nagi Podocarpus	medium
<i>Nandina domestica</i>	Heavenly Bamboo or Nandina	medium
<i>Nemopanthus</i> spp.	Goldfish species and hybrids	medium
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander	medium
<i>Nolina recurvata</i>	Pony Tail	low
<i>Ophiopogon japonicus</i>	Mondo Grass	low
<i>Osmanthus fragrans</i>	Sweet Olive	medium
<i>Pachyphytum</i> spp.	Pachyphytum	low
x <i>Pachyveria</i> spp.	Pachyveria species	low

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<i>Pandanus utilis</i>	Screw Pine	low
<i>Pandorea jasminoides</i>	Pandora Vine	medium
<i>Pennisetum alopecuroides</i>	Pennisetum	low-medium
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	Fountain Grass	medium
<i>Persea borbonia</i>	Red Bay	medium
<i>Photinia x fraseri</i>	Fraser photinia	medium
<i>Phyllostachys</i> spp.	Bamboo species	low
<i>Pilea nummularifolia</i>	Creeping Charlie	medium
<i>Pimpinella anisum</i>	Anise	low
<i>Pittosporum tobira</i>	Pittosporum	medium
<i>Platycladus orientalis</i> 'Berkmannii'	Berkman Golden Arborvitae	low
<i>Platycladus</i> spp.	Arborvitae	low
<i>Plumbago auriculata</i>	Plumbago	medium
<i>Podocarpus falcatus</i>	Podocarpus	medium
<i>Podocarpus macrophyllus</i>	Podocarpus	medium
<i>Prunus caroliniana</i>	Cherry Laurel	low-medium
<i>Pseuderanthemum laxiflorum</i>	Amethyst Star	medium
<i>Psidium guajava</i>	Guava	medium
<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i>	Firethorn	medium
<i>Radermachera sinica</i>	China Doll	medium-high
<i>Raphiolepis indica</i>	Indian Hawthorn	low
<i>Rhipsalis</i> spp.	Rhipsalis species and hybrids	low

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<i>Rhododendron</i> spp.	Azalea species and hybrids	medium-high
<i>Rhoeo spathacea</i>	Oyster Plant	low
<i>Rosa</i> spp.	Rose (climbers) species and hybrids	medium
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Rudbeckia	medium
<i>Russelia equisetiformis</i>	Firecracker	medium
<i>Sanseveria trifasciata</i> 'Laurentii'	Goldband Sansevieria	low
<i>Scaevola aemula</i> 'Blue Wonder'	Blue Wonder	medium
<i>Schefflera actinophylla</i> 'Amate'	Amate Schefflera	medium
<i>Schefflera arboricola</i>	Dwarf Schefflera	medium
<i>Scilla violacea</i>	Scilla	low
<i>Scutellaria javanica</i>	Chinese Skullcap	medium
<i>Sedum morganianum</i>	Burro's Tail	low
<i>Senecio</i> spp.	Senecio species	low
<i>Serissa foetida</i>	Serissa	medium
<i>Severina buxifolia</i> 'Nana'	Dwarf Boxthorn	low
<i>Spiraea</i> spp.	Spiraea species	medium
<i>Stemodia tomentosa</i> 'Namu'	Stemodia	low
<i>Strelitzia nicolai</i>	Giant Bird of Paradise	medium
<i>Strelitzia reginae</i>	Bird of Paradise	medium
<i>Streptocarpus saxorum</i>	Dolphin Violet	high
<i>Syngonium podophyllum</i>	Nephtytis	medium
<i>Tecomaria capensis</i>	Cape Honeysuckle	medium

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<i>Ternstroemia gymnanthera</i>	Japanese Cleyera	medium
<i>Thunbergia alata</i>	Black-eyed Susan Vine	medium
<i>Tibouchina granulosa</i>	Purple Glory Tree	medium
<i>Tibouchina urvilleana</i>	Tibouchina	medium
<i>Torenia fournieri</i>	Wishbone Flower	medium
<i>Trachelospermum asiaticum</i>	Asiatic Jasmine	medium
<i>Trachelospermum jasminoides</i>	Confederate Jasmine	medium
<i>Tradescantia pallida</i> 'Purple Heart'	Purple Queen	medium
<i>Vaccinium</i> spp.	Blueberry species	low-medium
<i>Viburnum obovatum</i>	Black Haw	low-medium
<i>Viburnum odoratissimum</i>	Sweet Viburnum	high
<i>Viburnum suspensum</i>	Sandankwa	medium
<i>Viburnum tinus</i> 'Compactum'	Spring Bouquet	low-medium
<i>Viguiera stenoloba</i>	Golden Eye	low
<i>Wedelia trilobata</i>	Wedelia	low
<i>Xylosma congestum</i>	Compact Xylosma	medium