



Bladderwort (*Utricularia*)

There are more *Utricularia* species than any other carnivorous plant, found all over the world and in many habitats. The most commonly available types are detailed here.

Soil growing Bladderworts e.g. *U. bisquamata*, *U. sandersonii*, *U. livida*

Position - They love full sun and are ideal for a sunny windowsill, conservatory or greenhouse.

Watering - Stand in 1-2 cm soft or rainwater. Rainwater from a water butt is particularly good as it will contain the organisms that these plants feed on. The water level can be higher in particularly hot weather or if going away.

Growing on - Maintenance really consists of removing dead leaves or flower stalks. Tweezers are a useful tool for this. Re-pot regularly to renew colony. Just break off a clump from the outside of the pot and plant in the centre of a new pot. Use 3:1 peat:sand. These plants grow happily amongst other carnivorous plants.

Winter care - most will tolerate a light frost but can be kept indoors over winter and some will flower almost all year.



***U. bisquamata* 'Bettys Bay'**

Semi-aquatic bladderworts e.g. *U. praelonga*.

This requires the same conditions as the terrestrial plants but just keep in deeper water - about half way up the pot.

Epiphytic Bladderworts e.g. *U. reniformis*, *U. nellumbifolia*

Position - Tropical plants that do not like full sun but do not mind a bright position. They grow well amongst other house plants or over stones which will help to create the humid atmosphere they like.



U. reniformis

Watering - water with soft or rainwater. Rainwater from a water butt is particularly good as it will contain the organisms that these plants feed on. They do not need to be stood in water all the time but should not dry out. A humid atmosphere is preferred.

Growing on - Maintenance really consists of removing dead leaves or flower stalks. Re-pot occasionally as the clump grows towards the edge of the pot, or grow in a large saucer. Use 3:1 peat:sand (Venus Flytrap mix) or Supersphag.

Winter care - Keep frost free over winter. The leaves will die off and the plant will go dormant. Just remove dead leaves and keep damp - not too wet.