





Here at Transflora our office usually smells of beautiful lilies or some variety of fragrant flower that graces the desks of our sales room. However this week the office is more fragrant than ever before. The reason.....wax flower!!! This beautiful flower grown in the heights of Fallbrook offers one of the sweetest smells around. Some say citrus, some say almonds, I say gorgeous.

Florists often use the California Waxflower in cut-flower arrangements. Although it is widely available, the plant is native to Western Australia where it grows as an evergreen shrub in gardens, and along roadsides. It is considered to be one of Australia's most famous wildflowers, and this popularity has spurred the development of plants with many different colorations (white, yellow, pink, purple, lilac, and bicolor). Surprisingly, it is in Israel that much of the physiological and horticultural research on this species has been done. Most Waxflower plant material in Europe originates from that country. In North America, plant material usually originates in California or Mexico, although Peru is also a producer. Australia itself sells to most of the world.

The genus name *Chamelaucium* is probably from the Greek - *chamia* meaning "dwarf" and *leucos* meaning "white". *Uncinatum* means "hooked", and refers to the tips of the needle-like leaves. The Waxflower is a member of the Myrtle (**Myrtaceae**) family.

General Filler Flower Care: Keep the water in the vase of your Waxflower fresh. Replace the water every 3 days with cold water keeping the water level near the top of the vase.

Re-cut 1/2" from the base of each Wax Flower stem **under water** using a sharp knife with each water change. Remove any foliage that may become submerged after re-cutting.

Variety note: Wax flower is a small family of plants containing 21 varieties of evergreen shrubs originally found in Australia. Wax flower is a great filler alternative to Baby's Breath. There are four hybrid species available: 'Album' with white flowers, 'Bundara Excelsior' with large pink flowers, 'Purple Pride' with reddish-purple flowers, and 'University' with red tinged stems and rose-purple flowers changing to purple.

Wax flower is available in several natural colors as well as many tinted shades. When freshly cut Wax flower stems have a citrus like aroma. Waxflower bunches usually measure 12" to 18" in length. Waxflower is sold in a 10 or more stem bunch. Wax flower is ethylene sensitive.

Add a commercial floral preservative such as Aqua Plus or Flora Life to the vase that contains your Waxflower with each water change. Floral preservative helps to prevent bacteria growth, aids in keeping vase water clear, and feeds your flowers and foliages insuring a longer vase life.

To make your own cut flower food mix 1/2 teaspoon of table sugar to a quart of cold water... mixing thoroughly.

Please click on this link to find out more about the weather alert released today

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/alerts-beta/ca.php?x=1>

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Warm Regards,
Team Transflora.
800-676-5753