

Pot culture for special hepatica

With us collectors, the consideration is often, where do I leave my treasures? Simply planting the plants in the garden is not always the most ideal. The plants are often at risk of pest infestation. The collector, on the other hand, wants to be close to his plants. If possible on stands, tables and shelves one would like to be able to regard and maintain its treasures. Often there is also the compromise that one puts the plants only to the bloom time on tables. Here you must be careful that they are not too dry or too wet. Feeling is required!

An ideal way to cultivate Hepatica is to plant it in pots. Old-fashioned clay pots prove to be advantageous for Hepatica. Different sizes, 8 - 10 - 12 - 15 cm depending on the age of each plant are recommended. It is best to put them then in gravel or pure sand to ensure constant humidity.

In pot culture substrate is very important. On the one hand, it must be kept sufficiently moist, on the other hand, it should be as permeable as possible! So you need to find a mixture that is enough for everything. We know the Japanese method. Only akadama (a firm type of clay) is mixed with a kind of soft pumice. The clay keeps the moisture and the pumice gives the permeability.

I can show here our pot culture soil, which consists of the following materials:

1 Portion: Pumice - grain size 2-8, pH-Wert 7,0 bis 7,5

1 Portion: Gravel - washed fine river gravel or sand

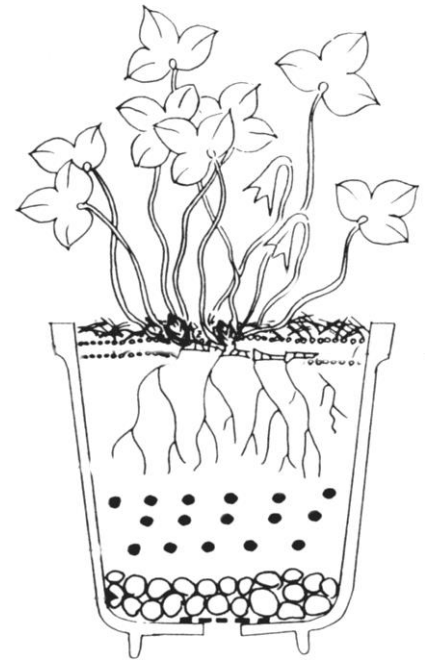
1 Portion: Bark - here you should take small-fiber pine bark.

1 Portion: Lava - grain size 1 to 5, pH value approx. 6.5 to 7.5 (Leca litter)

1 Portion: Bentonite - rock flour, good for the roots

6 Portion: Compost or good ready standard soil on fertilized with 1-2 Kg/m³ slow release fertilizer

The whole should then have a pH of 6.5-7. We cultivate in this soil all our hepatica and I think with good success. Now that we have all the components together, we can plant the most beautiful hepatica plants in the matching clay pots. You will ask: When? I prefer the time when the plant is in the middle of flowering. You clean through the leaves, cut away old leaves, shorten the roots a little, please do not overdo it here. Once the plant is in the pot, do not forget to water it. So, now just put it in the gravel bed and the next year you can enjoy the splendor of flowers. It would be useful for our protégés, if in the course of the year you water the pots with light additions of liquid fertilizer. Make sure that you do not use fertilizer with too high nitrogen content (8% N, 8% P, 6% K and various trace nutrients). Tip: A light dose of phosphorus / potash in August / September promotes the flower buds. So, now I have left everything out of the sewing box, now it's just up to your skill to culture hepatica!



planted landscapes



Growing in pots