

Dizygotheca

Cultivation manual — young plants from seed

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- Decorative reddish green saw-tooth leaves
 - Versatile houseplant
 - Easy to combine with Schefflera production





Dizygotheca elegantissima, a.k.a. False aralia, is an elegant, tropical shrub or small tree. This beauty has narrow, saw-tooth-edged leaves, starting with a reddish green colour and mature to dark blackish green. Dizygotheca elegantissima is native to tropical New Caledonia and Polynesia, where it grows as an evergreen perennial in damp rainforests. As a houseplant it's easy to prune, to keep it tall and slender or short and compact. Dizygotheca elegantissima can be grown well in combination with our Schefflera range.

Plant profile:

Genus:	Dizygotheca
Species:	elegantissima
Family:	Araliaceae
Common names:	False aralia; Plerandra elegantissima; Schefflera elegantissima; Elegant schefflera; Spider aralia; Threadleaf aralia; Petit houx Caledonien; Dizygotheca laciniata; Zierliche Fingeraralie; Aralia elegantissima.
Life cycle:	Evergreen perennial
Usage:	Houseplant
USDA Hardiness zone:	Zone 10 to 12
Plant habit:	Upright
Finished plant height:	30 to 70 cm



Available tray sizes: (cells/tray)

Tray 112 hole 5+
Tray 66 hole 8+
Tray 84 hole 5+



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Pot culture:

Culture location:	Greenhouse
Availability:	Year round
Average young plant production time:	12 to 14 weeks
Recommended pot sizes:	
Dizygotheca elegantissima:	12 to 17 cm pots
Plugs per pot:	1 to 2 plugs per pot
Plant density:	
12 cm pot:	36 pots per m ²
17 cm pot:	16 pots per m ²
Crop time from plugs to finished product:	
12 cm pots:	summer 15 weeks winter 20 wks
17 cm pots:	summer 20 weeks winter 25 weeks

Pests/diseases:

Aphids, Spider mites and Thrips.
Susceptible to root problems like Phytium, directly after planting. This can be avoided by applying small amounts of water at a time and reducing irrigation when temperatures are high.

Finishing:



Soil/media:

Use a well-drained soil mix with a pH between 6.2-6.6 and an EC of (1:1.5) 0.6 – 0.9 mS/cm. Keep an eye on pH. Dizygotheca is susceptible to manganese, caused by a low pH.



Moisture:

Keep the potting medium uniformly moist but not wet. Irrigate regularly. Reduce watering when temperatures are high (better irrigate in the evening or the following morning). Watering with ebb/flow floors or sub-irrigation is preferred. A relative humidity of 70 to 85 % is ideal.



Temperature:

Ideal cultivation temperatures are between 16 and 18°C. The crop tolerates lower temperature easily, but will grow slower. To harden off or store, keep temperatures above 12°C.



Light:

Start screening at 400 watt, with LS 15 or 16. Apply chalk at 500 watt from mid spring to the end of summer to keep the RH in the greenhouse on track.



Fertilization

EC target value in the pot (1:1.5) 0.6 – 0.9 mS/cm. Set EC release at 1,6 – 1.8 and pH at 5,8. For extra shiny leaves you can spray with a urea-containing fertilizer or a seaweed extract.

Cultivation tips:

Notes:

This information is for general guidance only, and is in some cases specific for North West European conditions. No guarantee is given for the result of the crop, nor is liability accepted for the consequences of applying the indications given.