

HYDROPONIC CULTURE OF *DROSOPHYLLUM LUSITANICUM*

JEONG-PIL LEE (이정필) • Seoul • Republic of Korea • paine6@naver.com

I raise various insectivorous plants as a hobby in Korea, and I work with the nickname Marshy Lander. There is a rumor that *Drosophyllum lusitanicum* is difficult to grow in Korea.

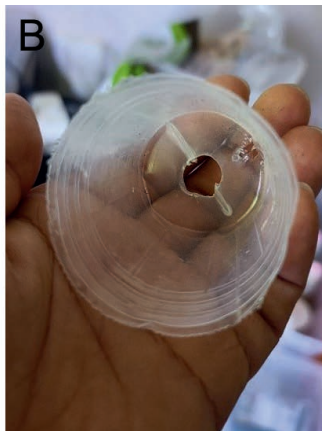
In December 2018, my friend Jun-su Kim (김준수) gave me some *Drosophyllum* seeds. The seeds germinated and I have been growing the plants. As the plants grew, I had trouble because my living environment was too small to grow big plants and I needed to grow the plants in a smaller space. So, after some trial and error of using a hydroponic method, the plants grew well and I succeeded in obtaining seeds.

Here is my method

1. Germinate *Drosophyllum* seeds and initially grow the seedlings in a seed starting tray.



2. Remove the seedlings and transplant them into small pots (A). The small pots should allow roots to emerge, so make a big hole in the bottom (B). Let the first root come out of the hole. I put the small pot in a common take-out coffee cup (C). Fill the take-out coffee cup with pure water. Roots that come out of the small pot hole must meet the water.



3. In Korea, winter is very cold, so I grow the plants indoors (D, E). Moss often grows in a transparent cup, so it was placed in a black cup (E). The roots continue to grow and reach the bottom of the cup (F). When the weather becomes warmer, the plants can be moved outside.



4. When the roots become too long, the bottom irrigation cup is replaced with a deep bottle (G). The sunshine outdoors would make the water in the bottle too hot, so to lower the temperature, a cloth was applied and the bottom was irrigated (H). Is hydroponics an alternative? Take a look at the size of the roots (I).



5. The mature plant flowered outdoors (J). When the ovary develops (K) and the inside becomes transparent brown (L), collect seeds (M).



The hydroponic plants should be protected from rain. When it rains, water fills the bottom container and the plants tend to rot and die.

I hope that cp growers around the world will try *Drosophyllum* hydroponics. My experience is that *Drosophyllum* is not a difficult plant to grow.



