

PLANTS TO READ ABOUT

Pinguicula esseriana: a tiny butterwort with two leaf faces

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AI-created living-room scene based on the original shop photograph. The decorative pot, furnishings and decoration are not included in the delivery; plants are natural products and may differ in growth.

Grow with knowledge.

A collection for observation and reference. Detailed explanations to help you make care decisions suited to your plant and its position.

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PLANT PORTRAIT

Pinguicula esseriana

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Botanical name	Pinguicula esseriana
Offered size	9 cm pot · delivery height not specified
Habit	Small perennial Mexican butterwort
Summer form	Larger trapping leaves in a flatter rosette
Resting form	Closely arranged small succulent leaves
Winter	Frost-free; adjust water to the compact resting form

Care at a glance

Observe, check and adapt care to the position and season. This table provides guidance for everyday practice.

Topic	What to do	Why it helps
Light	Bright and filtered; avoid heat behind glass.	The small rosette can overheat quickly.
Water	Moderately moist during trapping-leaf growth; let it dry a little.	The active plant needs supply without constant waterlogging.
Resting form	Keep much drier with small dense resting leaves.	The plant uses distinctly less water in this phase.
Watering	At the edge, not over the rosette centre.	Closely packed leaves should not hold a pocket of water.
Growing medium	Airy unfertilised mixture for Mexican butterwort.	Fine roots need nutrient-poor, draining conditions.
Fertiliser	No ordinary houseplant feeding.	Trapping leaves also contribute to nutrient supply.
Winter position	Bright and safely frost-free, without a rigid calendar change.	The actual leaf change indicates the phase better.
Handling	Touch the rosette and trapping surfaces little.	The small plant is easily mechanically injured.

Knowledge that grows

A very small leaf artwork

Pinguicula esseriana is one of the plants we most enjoy looking at closely. Its small rosette sets leaf tightly beside leaf and looks almost like a tiny green work of art in its 9 cm pot. It remains a Mexican butterwort with trapping leaves even if its compact appearance resembles a succulent. The offer gives no exact delivery height. Current leaf condition matters more: this species may form two clearly different rosettes through the year. Recognising this change helps one understand care better and avoids trying to reverse every reduction in size with more water.

Get to know both rosettes

During the active phase, larger leaves with trapping surfaces appear. During a quieter phase, smaller thicker leaves stand very close together. The plant then becomes more compact without automatically being ill. The transition depends on its conditions and cannot be placed on the same calendar day everywhere. Observe the centre from which new leaves emerge. A firm, neatly built small rosette differs from glassy-soft tissue. Note the change if helpful so the plant is easier to assess during the next annual cycle. Its changeability is part of its appeal.

A light position on a small scale

The butterwort stands well in bright filtered light. The small rosette should neither disappear in a dark niche nor bake directly behind hot glass. After transport, we introduce new light conditions gently. A bright plant table or light shelf is easy to check. Make sure larger neighbouring plants do not shade the rosette unnoticed. A closed glass dome may trap moisture and heat, so it is not necessary standard equipment. Air movement may be gentle; cold draughts are avoided. The plant remains safely frost-free even when it currently looks small and robust.

Moisture for the active leaf phase

When larger trapping leaves regrow, we keep the suitable growing medium moderately moist and let it dry a little between waterings. Water around the edge with suitable low-mineral water without filling the rosette centre. Excess water is removed. A permanently full deep saucer is not automatic butterwort care. Check pot weight and the internal course of moisture, because the small above-ground growth may sit over a relatively large soil volume. Few roots there use less water than a large leafy houseplant. Careful checking protects better than an unchanging watering plan.

The resting form needs restraint

When *Pinguicula esseriana* forms many small dense resting leaves, the water amount is clearly reduced and the growing medium kept drier. The plant then needs a different supply from its trapping-leaf phase. Keep it bright, airy and frost-free. Our home is not identical to a specialist greenhouse, so we observe condition and surroundings rather than adopting someone else's calendar instruction unchanged. When larger trapping leaves begin again, we cautiously increase moisture. Development gives the direction. A softening centre is not dismissed as a healthy winter form but investigated more closely.

Leave compost and trapping surfaces undisturbed

An unfertilised airy mixture for Mexican butterworts suits the small plant. Mineral structure helps water drainage. Normal pre-fertilised potting compost and ordinary houseplant fertiliser are not the right choice. Trapping leaves remain unpolished and are not washed regularly. Pieces of meat or large insects are not placed on them either. The plant can process small accidentally captured insects itself. If fungus gnats appear around other pots, we address their cause there; a small butterwort rosette is not a guaranteed control method. Care and expected performance thus stay in a sensible proportion to the plant's real size.

Through the year with little intervention

Repotting is sensible when the growing medium no longer works or the root space really needs changing. A healthy small rosette is held carefully, not pulled by its leaves. Old dead leaves are only loosened when this can be done without harm. The species may develop delicate flowers on slender stems above the foliage. Between flowering phases, the finely stepped rosette is worth a look. With attentive observation of new leaves, suitable moisture and an accessible shelf, *Pinguicula esseriana* remains a plant whose small changes can bring great pleasure.

Pictures and details

Images and descriptions from this portrait. Decorative items are not included in the offer.



Original shop photograph of the offered plant; the details in the particular offer are authoritative.

Good to know

Why does the rosette get smaller in winter?

The species can form a dense succulent resting form; firm healthy resting leaves are not automatically damage.

Must I water more to make it large again?

No. The resting form is watered much more sparingly. New trapping-leaf growth shows a return to higher demand.

Can it remain in frost?

Keep pot cultivation safely frost-free; the small resting form does not permit frost exposure.

Does it need a permanently full saucer?

Not as a general rule. Control moisture by leaf phase and avoid permanent excessive wetness.

Should I place insects on it?

No forced feeding with large insects or meat. Small accidental prey is enough as a possible supplement.

Can ordinary potting soil be used?

Use an airy, unfertilised mixture for Mexican butterworts.

Is delivery height precisely stated?

No. The checked shop names the 9 cm pot, not an exact overall height.

The matching offer

[View plant in the shop](#)

Product and delivery details are given in the individual offer.

[Read the complete portrait in English](#)



English portrait



Shop offer