

Online Extras

Taming the Beast: Bringing the Unruly Indoors

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For those up for the task of “taming the beast,” take the following into consideration

- Ensure there is adequate vertical clearance in the growing area, not only for the height of the plants and lamps, but also for the quality of air provided in the growing environment. If you have height constraints, consider growing a more moderate exotic variety that maintains some of the growth characteristics of more conventional indoor-grown plant strains. Basically, if you have less than eight feet of vertical clearance to work with you are going to have some headaches when growing unruly varieties.
- Make your path in the jungle. Huge and very tall, well-branched plants can take over your entire growroom. While caging the individual plants in helps, you will want to ensure that you plan and maintain adequate pathways around the growing area that allows you to access all parts of all of the plants as necessary. Some growers actually use the “creeper” trolleys seen in garages to navigate underneath their giant unruly plants, as there is plenty of room to move-about beneath the plants as they are widely spaced and in large containers, keeping the base of the plant higher off the ground.
- Be patient. Growing longer flowering varieties is a marathon not a sprint, so don't over-feed the plants starting earlier on the flowering cycle. It will take longer for flowers and fruits to form develop and ripen if you do. The longer flowering process needs to be respected; remembering that the plant is the boss in this situation will reward you with bigger and yields and better quality. Gently flush the growing medium once every two to three weeks or as necessary during the flowering cycle; this is beneficial when feeding plants with longer flowering periods.