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African Violet Society of America

Weekly Growing Tip

August 29, 2016

Greetings!

Welcome to the African Violet Society of America's Weekly Growing Tip email. We hope you benefit from our experience and expertise!

Variable Variegation?

It can happen. One month your variegated violet's leaves are a beautiful blend of green and cream, pink and white, and the next they've lost their luster and those lovely patterns that made them so pretty. What happened?! And how do you get that variegated leaf pattern back?

[Variegated foliage](#) comes in different patterns and can be found on violets of all varieties. The first recognized pattern of variegation was [Tommie Lou](#), a distinct, white edging that is consistent on the entire plant. Other forms of variegation include [mosaic](#) and [crown](#).

Variegated leaves contain less chlorophyll than all-green foliage plants do. Because chlorophyll is a key component of a violet's ability to grow, the more variegation a plant has, the less energy it will produce. Heavily variegated plants can be very slow growers, and leaves that are all-white have very little chance of propagating.

The variegated trait is sensitive to light; the more light a plant gets, the more likely variegation will fade. [Fertilizing](#) with a high-nitrogen preparation can cause a variegation pattern to diminish or seem to disappear, as can warm temperatures.



This plant's perch is in indirect light, and its food is low in nitrogen!



As variable as variegation can be, there is hope if your prettily patterned plant goes green - Adjust the factors that can cause variegation to fade: light, fertilizer and temperature. With a little attention, you can bring your plant back to its former glory!

Variegated violets are some of the winningest plants at shows. To find out which varieties take home the prizes, see the latest [Tally Time!](#) For more

information about variegation, go to AVSA's [FAQ](#) section.

Do you have questions about growing violets? Respond to this email and let us know. You might find the answer featured in an upcoming Weekly Growing Tip.

Please feel free to share this email with interested friends. Anyone (member or not) may sign up for their own copy [here](#).

Sincerely,

Maureen Pratt
AVSA Membership & Promotion

What's New at AVSA?

The AVSA Office will be closed on Labor Day, Monday, September 5, but will reopen the following day with regular business hours.

The September/October issue of the *African Violet Magazine* has been mailed. If members in the USA do not receive their copy by September 20, please email the [AVSA office](#) or call 844-400-AVSA (toll-free) or 409-839-4725. A replacement copy will be sent.

Not a member of the African Violet Society of America? [Join Today!](#)

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