

Darcy.

The evidence is not yet in agreement

Unknown – identification required



Darcy has no species label. The form says "very dry" in one field and "wet underneath" in another. Two people have watered it this week. The right next step is to resolve the information, not sell a confident explanation.

OBSERVED

There is no usable customer photograph in this synthetic example. Species, pests, leaf condition and drainage cannot be assessed. The leaf illustration is decorative and must not be treated as identification evidence.

OWNER-REPORTED

- Named Darcy; received as a gift without a species label.
- Owner describes the leaves as drooping for two days.
- One answer says the soil is "very dry"; another says it is wet underneath. Neither gives a depth or time.
- Two household members watered this week; the amounts and sequence are unknown.
- Darcy was moved from a hallway to a window three days ago. Direct sunlight exposure is unknown.
- The decorative pot may contain an inner pot, but this has not been checked.
- A dog can reach the leaves. No ingestion is reported.

WHY CHECKOUT PAUSES

Identity, moisture and drainage can materially change the advice. This is a completed example of a clarification response, not a pretend completed diagnosis. In the launch workflow, these gaps must be resolved before payment is requested.

Original illustration, not a submitted customer photograph.

Two descriptions can both be sincere

POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS

Wilting can occur with too little water or with excessively wet roots. The word "drooping" cannot select between those paths. [umd-problems]

Different checking depths and times could explain the conflicting moisture descriptions. That is a question to resolve, not a finding about this pot. [umd-water]

The move may also have changed light exposure. Whether that matters depends on the plant and the actual exposure; window proximity alone is not a measurement. [umd-light]

IMPORTANT UNCERTAINTY

No species guess, root-rot diagnosis, pest identification or watering dose is justified from this record. There is no defensible percentage confidence to display. A single generic watering instruction could send this case in the wrong direction.

THE FOUR QUESTIONS THAT CHANGE THE PLAN

- Can you provide a clear whole-plant photograph and one close-up showing leaves and their attachment to stems?
- When did each person last water, and what does the mix feel like now at the surface and a little below?
- Is there an inner pot with holes, and is there water beneath it?
- How long does direct sunlight actually fall on the leaves? Was there any label or receipt identifying the plant?

Three practical priorities while we clarify

PRACTICAL ACTIONS

1. Make one shared watering record

Agree who checks the pot next and record the last known watering. Do not prescribe another dose from the word "drooping" alone; inspect moisture and drainage first. [\[umd-problems\]](#) [\[umd-water\]](#)

2. Collect a usable evidence set

Photograph the whole plant and a leaf detail in natural light, with a plain background. Add the pot base if safely accessible. Avoid people and identifying household details.

3. Keep the unknown plant out of reach

Use a secure location inaccessible to the dog while identity is clarified. Do not taste it, apply a homemade remedy or use an unidentified pesticide. If exposure is suspected, contact a veterinarian rather than waiting for this service.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Resolve the questions today if possible. A usable submission can be reassessed for eligibility. If reliable interpretation is still not possible, explain the limitation and refer the owner to an in-person nursery or qualified horticulturist. There is no charge for a paid report that has not been accepted.

DO NOT WAIT FOR A REPORT

Rapid collapse, a soft stem, or suspected animal or child exposure needs appropriate local help promptly. This service is not emergency support. It should not promise a remote identification where the images do not support one.

Correspondence from Felix Fern

FELIX'S FICTIONAL CONSULTATION NOTES

Darcy has been watered by two departments. Neither maintains a register. Both believed they were assisting.

The pot is described as dry and wet. We have accepted both statements provisionally and requested that they include a depth.

The recent move to the window was intended as an improvement. Darcy has declined to endorse the proposal until someone establishes what Darcy is.

A photograph has been requested. The missing label is not expected to attend.

FICTION, CLEARLY

Felix Fern is a fictional AI botanical correspondent. These invented notes accompany a real limitation: the submitted information does not yet support responsible plant-specific guidance.

KEEP THIS PART

Clarifying a contradiction is useful care. Confidence is not a substitute for missing evidence.

SOURCE REGISTER

Sources support the care sections, not the fiction. No institutional endorsement or horticulturist review is claimed.

[umd-problems] University of Maryland Extension: Diagnose Indoor Plant Problems

[umd-water] University of Maryland Extension: Watering Indoor Plants

[umd-light] University of Maryland Extension: Lighting for Indoor Plants