African Violet

- *Saintpaulia ionantha*
- Actually a hybrid with several species
- Gesneriaceae family
- Coastal Tanzania, Africa

African Violet

- One of the world’s most popular flowering plants, $19 million in the U.S.
- Sold primarily in 4-in. pots
- Thousands of cultivars
- Propagate by leaf cuttings
- Day neutral, total accumulated light

African Violet

- 69-79°F opt., 65-85°F acceptable, death at 50°F
- Don’t allow plants to dry out
- Water 9-14°F cooler than the leaf will spot the foliage

African Violet

- 50 ppm N CLF
- Low light 1000-1500 fc during production, flowering stops below 300 fc.

African Violet

- 12 weeks for plantlets
- 4-6 weeks for plugs
- 10 weeks to flower in 4-in. pot
- Last indefinitely if properly cared for