

fall





To protect from cold damage in the winter, I limit any planting and potting late in the season.



No planting

For in-ground plants, the best protection from cold damage is a well-developed plant (I wait until it's filled a 5 gallon pot) with a well-established root system in the ground. That takes time. So I don't plant in the ground after June. Much better success since doing that.



No potting

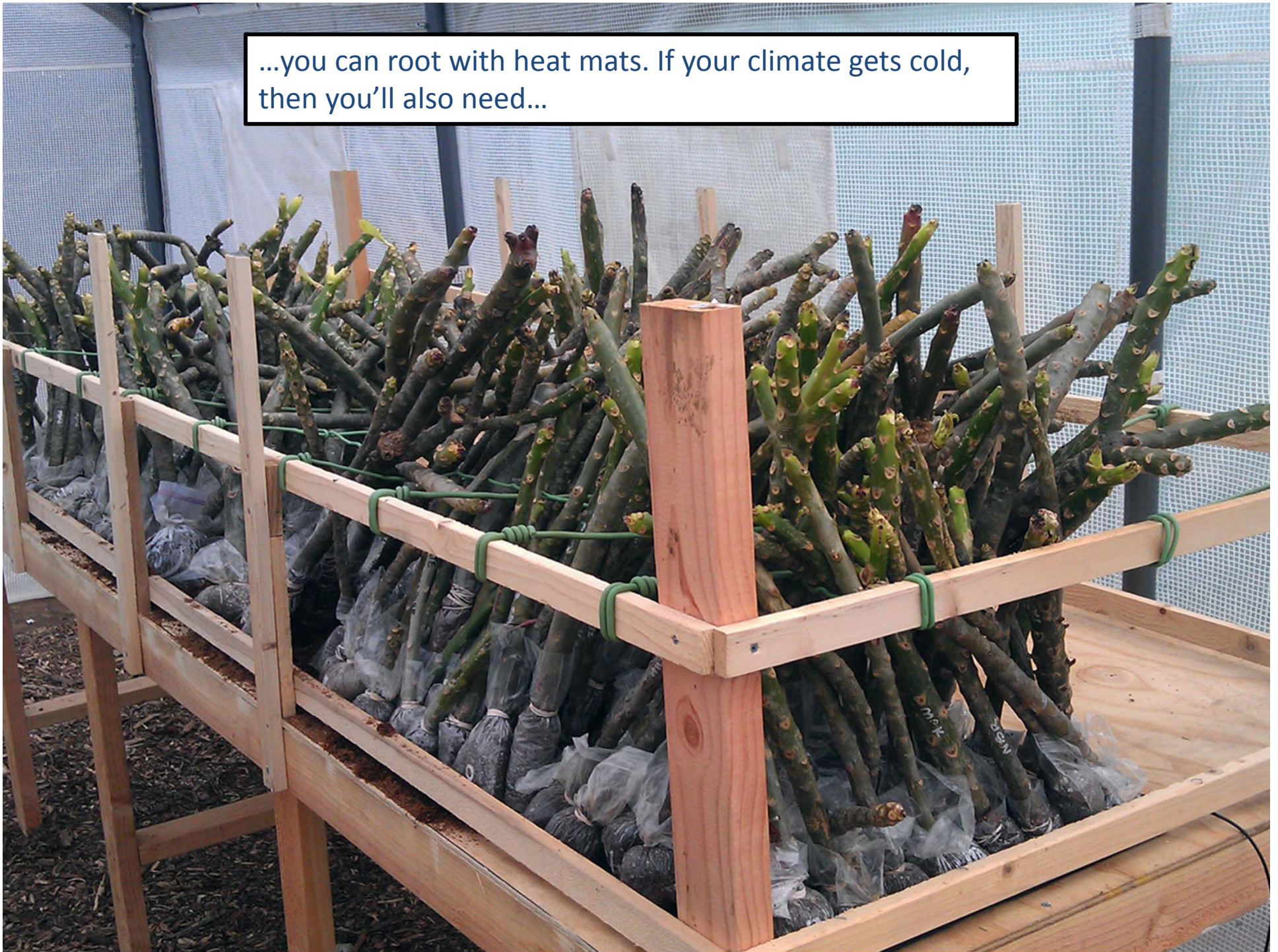
Same principle for container growing. You still want a well-established plant in the pot. I try not to pot or re-pot or up-pot plants after August.

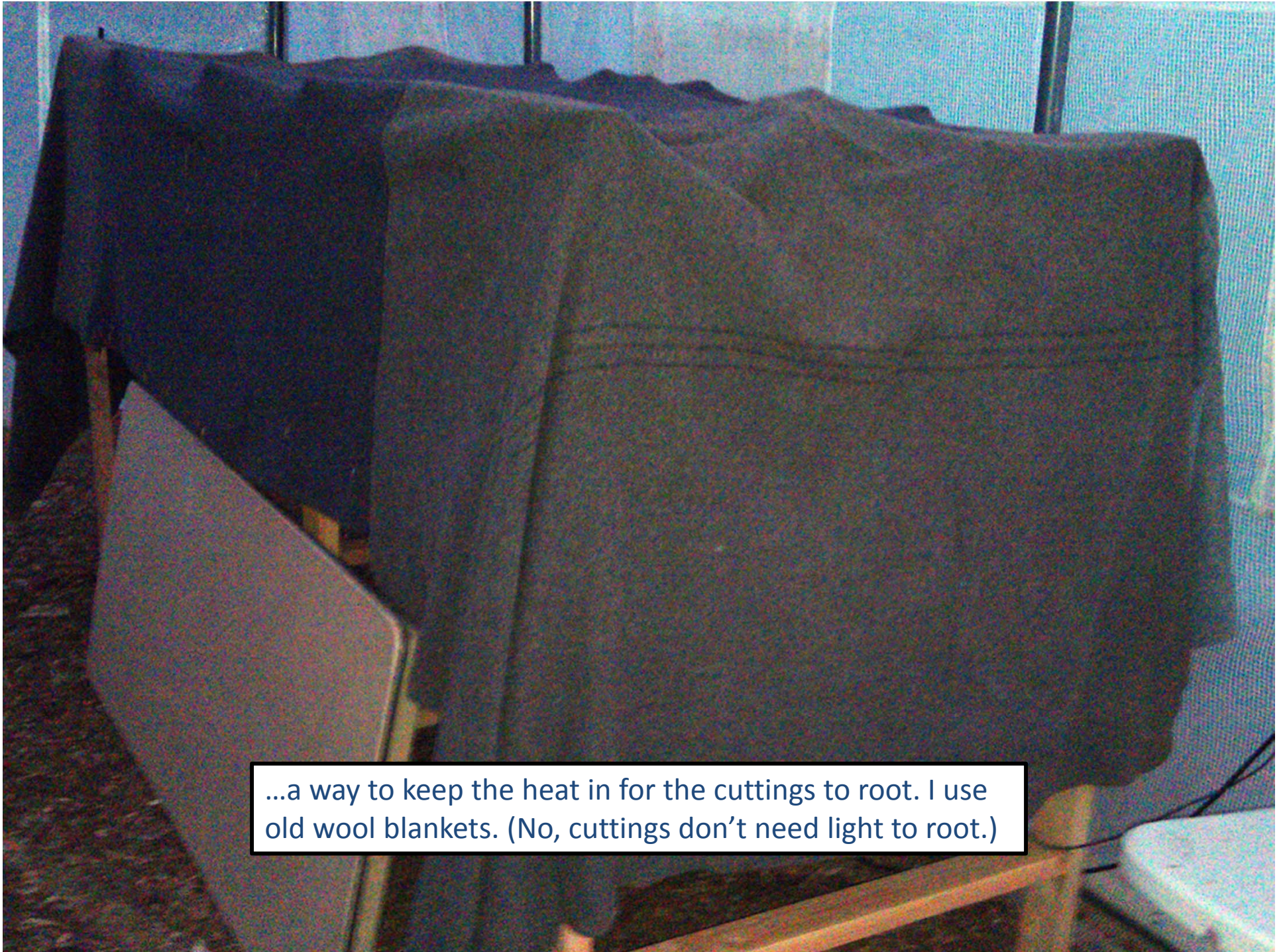


No rooting

Since most varieties take an from 6-10 weeks to root, I wouldn't start cuttings past early September – unless...

...you can root with heat mats. If your climate gets cold, then you'll also need...





...a way to keep the heat in for the cuttings to root. I use old wool blankets. (No, cuttings don't need light to root.)



And while it's best not to root late in the season, sometimes you don't have a choice, like when the top half of one of my trees broke off in a wind storm.

Storing Cuttings Over Winter

- In a tub with lightly damp mulch
- Cool, dark area
- In a bucket with perlite/peat/pumice
- Dip in wax/paraffin
- Wrap in newspaper
- Bag root
- In the house: Laundry room or attic

NOTES:

- Remove all leaves and inflos
- Mist when dry
- Torch cut end

If you decide not to root cuttings and store them until spring, here are some methods...



WIND!!

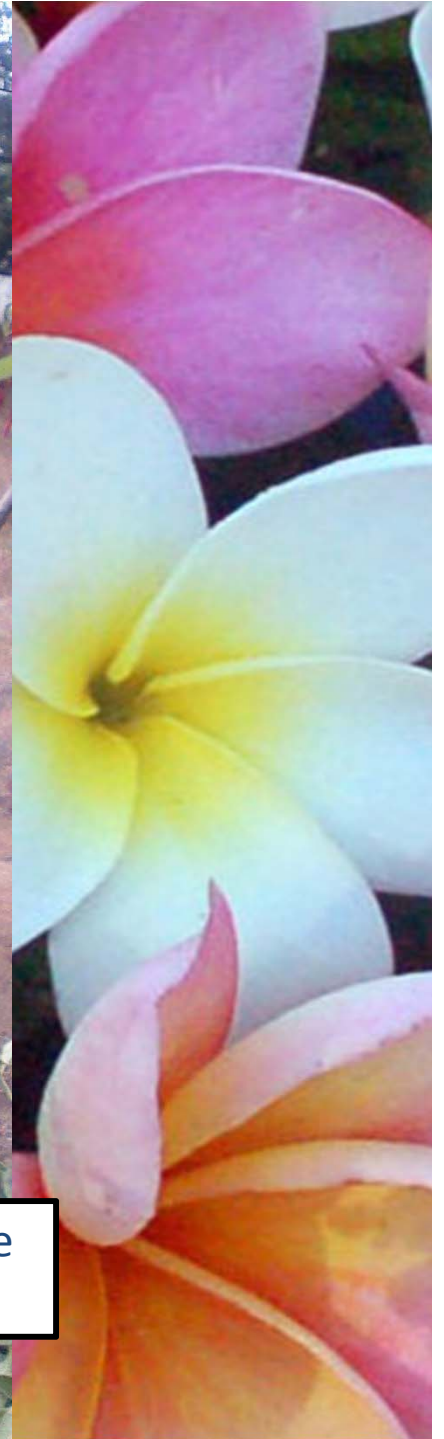
Some of us have to deal with high winds (Santa Ana's), like this tree which was knocked down in the fall.



Some were just badly bent over.

Cut leaves

One way to save your plants is to trim a good percentage of the leaves, which provides less wind resistance.



Staking

You can also stake your larger plants like this, with a metal pole, S hooks, and rope to stabilize the branches.



HEAT

Yes, sometimes our leaves will look like this in the heat of fall (remember? Summer in fall?) But heat does not generally kill plumerias. (Just ask our friends in the Cal deserts or Arizona.) Note that the yellowed leaves are usually the ones farther down the branch, which are the old, more vulnerable leaves. Just cut them off if you don't like it...



Again, heat damage on your leaves like this does not mean your plant is dying.



And here's the depressing part ... when our babies start losing their leaves, telling us they're about to go to sleep. ☹️



For much more detail on this, read my post here:

<http://www.plumeria.care/my-late-season-plumeria-cocktail/>

Last Feeding:

Seaweed Extract

SuperThrive

Epsom Salts

Phyan 20

Fish Emulsion

Around early November

Watering in Fall

- Less hand watering
- Leave pots out long enough to get a good rain or two (washes out all the accumulated salt from tap water)