

RUSTY LUCAS
P.O. Box 422
SANDUSKY, OHIO 44871

December 2, 2005

Poul's Landscaping & Nursery
6754 W. Indian Creek Road
Long Grove, IL 60047
ATTN: Customer Care Department

Dear Poul,

Do you get many requests or calls from new parents looking to leave their babies with you at your nursery? I sometimes wonder about things like that with the level of ignorance in our country sometimes. Do you ever just want to yell into the phone: "Hey Stupid! We grow plants! We don't feed babies, burp them, and change their poopy diapers!" You would think that they would get a clue with "Landscaping" being part of your business name and all. It just really makes you shake your head sometimes, doesn't it?

I am looking to unload some house plants. Can you help me with this at all? I have a spider plant that keeps having babies and I do not have enough room in my small home to keep all of these new plants -- especially if they grow up to have babies of their own! I cannot throw them out and leave them to die-- they are living things. But I just have way too many baby spider plants in my kitchen. Spidey (that is what I call the mommy spider plant) seems to be sprouting new babies every time I walk by. Which brings up another whole issue. I know that Spidey is a girl plant because she is the one having all the spider plant babies, but I cannot tell yet if her babies are boys or girls. I know how to tell if a little newborn puppy or kitten is a boy or a girl, but plants don't have all the same parts. Is there an easy way to tell if a plant is a boy or a girl? If so, I imagine that might involve digging up the roots and everything. I don't want to make a big mess or cut off anything that I shouldn't.

I used to live in a really big apartment with a huge front room. It had windows from the ceiling to practically the floor. My plants really liked that room because it had a lot of sun. But I had to move into a smaller house (a long story that I will not get into at this time) that is less conducive to spider plant babies. They spread out so much when there are so many of them! At last count I think I had SIX! Can you imagine?? Oh man!

So I need to get rid of all these plants before they take over the place. Will you, perhaps, buy back my spider plant babies for re-sale? My friend once bought a hamster that was pregnant. He didn't know it at the time the pet store sold her to him. As luck would have it, she had a

baby boy hamster. Within a few weeks time, the baby boy grew to maturity and got his mommy pregnant again. Within a few months, my friend was hip deep in hamsters! But he was able to sell some of those back to the pet store and make a small profit. I am not looking to profit on my spider plants, but if I could just break even, that would be nice.

Is there a way to neuter my spider plant so that it will stop having babies? I don't want to damage it in any way, but I know that some people out there advocate neutering cats and dogs to eliminate unwanted litters of pups and kitties. Couldn't I just do the same thing with Spidey? I am wondering if that is something I could do myself, or if it would require a professional from your office. I wouldn't dream of neutering a dog by myself unassisted, but plants don't usually bite back, so I think I could handle it if it is not a very complicated process and there is a How-To book on it. Can you please send me some information on plant fixing? Maybe you could suggest a book that I can pick up at my local public library. It is right across the street from my old plant room windows!

Also let me know if you want to buy my baby spider plants. If you prefer, after getting the information from you, I will neuter all of the babies that Spidey has so that you don't end up with any unexpected expectant mother plants.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rusty Lucas". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Rusty Lucas

p.s. I know some people who own a baby human nursery. I know that they sometimes get unwanted calls from new homeowners looking to create beautiful landscapes on their new lawns. Would it be okay if I have them refer these plant calls to you? Maybe you could also refer the inquiries that you get about human babies to them. If you would be agreeable to that, let me know and I will give you their phone number. You might each see a jump in business from this cross-kingdom referral reciprocity! Do you think that I could get a free Poul's baseball cap for my role in the referral? I would like a forest green Poul's cap if you have one. You can send it to my post office box address. That is where I get most of my mail.