Growing recommendations Paradiso & Perola

All information provided in these growing recommendations has been carefully compiled from our own observations and internal trials in Northern Europe.

General remarks

There are three Paradiso series. These are Early, Mid Early (Mid Early and Mini) and Late. Early has the least and Late the most need for cold temperatures. In comparison to many other series, Paradiso has a more compact and uniform habit. Perola is a Primula polyanthus. It blooms midseason and has short firm flower stems.

Potting on

Potting compost: Airy potting compost, with 10% clay. A pH of 5.5 – 6.0 and an EC of 0.5 – 0.7 mixed with calcium and extra iron.

All EC and pH values are determined according to the extraction method 1:1.5.

Potting on: Put plenty of compost in the pots, so that these are full to the brim with a slight head. Seedlings are approximately 6 weeks old with about 5 leaves.



Plant depth: Top of plug at the same level as surface of potting compost.



Pot size: Paradiso in 10.5 – 12 cm (4 – 4.75 inch) and Mini in 9 cm (3.5 inch). Perola in 10.5 - 12 cm pots.

Number per m2: 12 cm pots: 30-35, 10.5 cm pots: 40-50, 9 cm pots 50-60 per m2.

Cultivation

Cultivation plan: Paradiso - see table. Perola- week 36-38

Greenhouse climate

Temperature: For the first 10 weeks after potting on 7-8°C (44-47°F). Ventilate from 8.5°C (47°F) with a minimum vent position of 10% depending on the outside temperature.

From 10 weeks until flowering 3 - 5°C (37-41°F). Ventilate from 6°C (43°F) with a minimum vent position of 15% depending on the outside temperature.

Humidity: Air well and use ventilation for an active climate. In persistent damp and dark weather set the heating pipe temperature to no lower than 20-25°C (68-77°F).

Light: As soon as the roots reach the edge of the pot cultivate with as much light as possible. Set screen for light levels of 550 Watt/m², 198 Joule/cm²², 50 KLux, 5130 Foot Candle. Reduce the light level by 10% during the day between 11:00 – 14:00 hours.

Fertilization

During the first 8 weeks add fertilizer to each water gift. Use an N:K ratio of 1:1 to 1:2 with all the necessary elements. Ensure it contains extra calcium and iron. The EC should be in the range 1.3 to 2.0 depending on the EC in the pot (0.5 to 0.7), pH 5.5 to 6.0.

From week 9 until flowering use fertilizer with an N:K ratio of 1: 2 to 1: 3 with all the necessary elements. Keep the EC in the irrigation water between 1.3 and 2.0 and EC in the potting compost between 0.5 and 0.7. Keep the pH level at 5.5 – 6.0. If

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growth is too vigorous administer extra potassium.

Watering: Until the roots reach the edge of the pot water from above to encourage good growth. Then keep the potting compost dryer. This will encourage root development and will help keep the plant compact as well as increasing resilience. Water in the mornings so that the plants have time to dry before nightfall.

Soil sample: Take soil samples regularly, every 4 - 6 weeks.

Growth regulation

The growth can regulated by:

- Giving potassium-rich fertilization
- Cultivating in dry conditions
- Allowing the crop to start the night dry
- Temperature drop
- Using chemical growth regulators

Crop protection

Check the crop regularly for mildew and insects. Spray 10-12 days after potting on as preventative measure against mites, fungus gnats and caterpillars.

Major diseases:

- Bacteria pseudomonas or acidovorax
- Leaf spots Ramularia primulae
- Botrytis
- Thielaviopsis basicola
- Mycocentrospora

Major pests:

- Leaf miner
- Mites
- Caterpillars

Fungus gnats (Sciara)

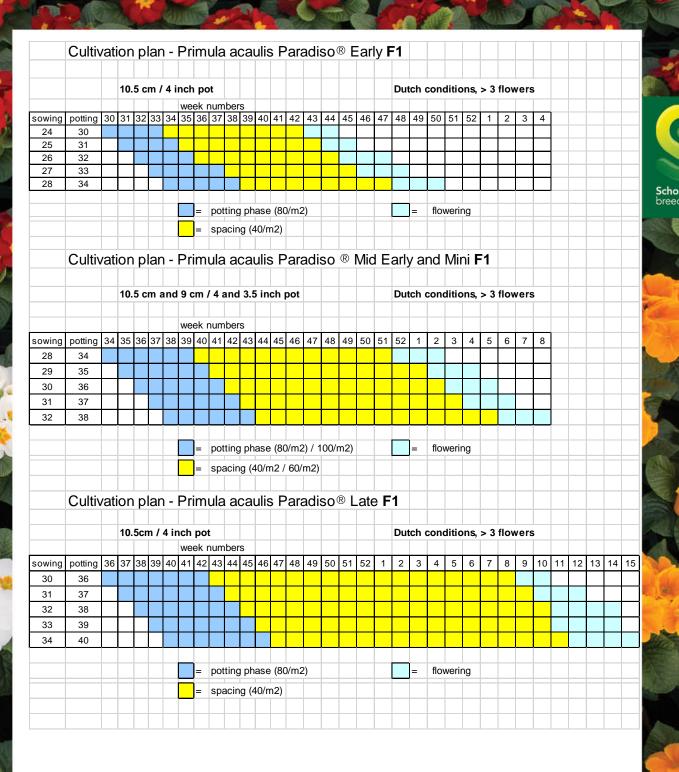
If you have any questions please contact our Schoneveld Breeding Growing Advice department, tel: +31 571 271 717

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