Schoneveld Breeding offers three types of primula, all presenting superior plant structure and enjoyable blooms.

**Primula Paradiso**

There are several types of primula available in today’s garden centers. Primarily known as a cool season plant, primula is versatile for indoor and outdoor use. With longer shelf life, improved uniformity and a whole range of colors, it is a wonderful addition to any program.

Schoneveld Breeding is focused on developing and producing quality primula seeds of acaulis, polyanthus and obconica types. Features such as genetically superior plant structure, uniformity, aesthetically appealing blooms and colors as well as sustainability are key components.

Here are the main attributes of each type of primula to decide which series is best for you.

**PRIMULA ACAULIS**

Paradiso is a series which is environmentally friendly to cultivate. With this series, the amount of growth regulators is reduced. Less growth regulator is better for the environment and saves money. Furthermore, the grower has greater control of the crop.

Paradiso is available in four types:
- **Paradiso Early**: Suitable for early season. Requires little to no cool treatment.
- **Paradiso Mini**: Compact growing *Primula acaulis*. Great for 3-inch pots.
- **Paradiso Mid**: Can be grown with less growth regulator and is less susceptible to leaf yellowing. Suitable for early to midseason shipping. Requires minimal cooling.
- **Paradiso Late**: These varieties have a good shelf life and uniform blooms. Great for late and extended season programs for spring. This series does require cool treatment to flower.

**PRIMULA OBCONICA**

Touch Me (Primin Free) is a true spring plant with beautiful, firm, bright green leaves and cheerful flowers. It comes in both soft tints and truly vibrant colors and provides a really glorious touch of spring. Together with the new flowers, which are lighter in color, this creates a very special effect. Touch Me is ideal for use in 3-inch, 6-inch and gallon pots.

- **Touch Me Mini**: Genetically small compact plant, suitable for 3- to 4-inch pot sizes.
- **Touch Me Midi**: Firm flower stems, bright colors and a long flower life.
- **Touch Me Large**: A strong plant with a genetically compact structure.
- **Pricanto**: Pricanto has magnificent vintage colored flowers with a nostalgic edge.
- **Original**: this is the only *Primula obconica* from Schoneveld that does contain Primin, giving the plant natural resistance to insects.

**PRIMULA POLYANTHUS**

Perola is a long-stemmed primula that is characterized by its exceptionally strong stems, which prolong the flower life. It has a longer shelf life than the standard *Primula acaulis*. It has a more open structure and higher production of flower stems (compared to acaulis) making Perola less sensitive to Botrytis.

**ACAULIS GROWING RECOMMENDATIONS**

- **Germination**: Sow seeds in plug trays filled with a fine textured peat mix with an EC between 0.7 and 0.9. It is not necessary
to use a movable screen, net or chalk the greenhouse roof depending on your conditions.

Watering. After transplant, water the plants from above for the first few weeks (moisture level 3 to 4) to encourage good growth and a good microclimate. It is a good idea to water in the mornings so that the crop is dry before nightfall. As soon as the first roots are visible at the edge of the pot, the plants can be grown under drier conditions (moisture level 3). When first buds are visible, it is preferable to water from below.

Fertilization. During the first six to eight weeks use an NPK fertilizer including trace elements with an N:K ratio of 1:2. Add calcium and iron (EDDHA) to the fertilizer.
regularly. Depending on the growth, adjust the N:K ratio to 1:3 or 1:4. Aim for an EC of 0.5 to 0.7 in the pot. Also, monitor your nutritional status in the pot by taking soil samples once every four to six weeks.

**Growth regulation.** Growth can be regulated by timely fertilization with additional potassium. As well, keeping the plants a little dryer or applying a temperature drop are a couple other methods of maintaining plant size. If necessary, chemical growth regulators Dazide and Propiconazole may be used.

**CROP PROTECTION**

Here are a few pests and diseases that may damage your Primula acaulis crop. Apply preventive measures regularly.

- Botrytis
- Bacteria Pseudomonas or Acidovorax
- Ramularia primulae (leaf spot disease)
- Thielaviopsis basicola
- Mycocentrospora
- Whitefly
- Leaf miner
- Caterpillars
- Fungus gnats (Sciara)
- Thrips
- Mites

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

For culture information for the Primula polyanthus, Primula obconica or other Schoneveld genetics, please contact Kathy McKay. gpn

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