

# Primula elatior F? Crescendo® Blue

## Shades

Item no.: U4040E

### Crop Time

Spring: 24 - 26 weeks

### Height

25cm

### Exposure

Sun - Partial shade

### Seed Form

BeGreen Priming

### Hardiness Zone

4-7

### Best Uses

Bedding, Landscape, Pot Plant

## Culture guide

### Usage

Attractive pot plants, bedding

### Sow time

Outdoor forcing: March-May; Indoor forcing (frost free): Mai-June

### Sowing method

1 seed per plug

## **Germination**

10-14 days at 65 °F (18 °C). Avoid temperatures above 68 °F (18 °C) during germination. Maintain relative humidity above 95 %. Sow seeds in well drained media low in nutrients with a pH between 5.8-6.2. Cover seed lightly with vermiculite. Light plug trays during Stage I.

## **Growing on**

Transplant plugs into 4-4.5" (10-11 cm) pots containing a well-drained media with a pH range of 5.8-6.5. Grow on at 59-63 °F (15-16 °C) for 3-4 weeks. Fertilize at 100-150 ppm nitrate nitrogen in a well-balanced mix. Maintain light levels below 3000 f.c. until fully rooted. Once established, lower temperatures to 40 °F (5 °C) or lower for 6 weeks to induce uniform flower initiation. Once buds are set, gradually increase temperatures to 50-54 °F (10-12 °C). Avoid excessive temperatures, as poorer plant and flower quality will result.

## **Media**

Use a well-drained, growing substrate with 15-30 % clay, 0-20 % parts (e.g. bark, perlite), 0,5-1,5 kg/m<sup>3</sup> complete balanced fertilizer, 0-3 kg/m<sup>3</sup> slow release fertilizer (3-6 months), iron-chelate, micronutrients, pH: 5.8-6.2.

## **Temperature**

Grow at 10-15 °C. In winter indoors frost free at 3-5 °C or outdoors. Outdoor fleece cover needed. For wintering the leaf rosette should be well developed. Alternating temperatures (10-12 °C day- and 1-2 °C night temperature) for 4-6 weeks promotes considerably the flower initiation for a frost free cultivation. The plants start (from CW 45 earliest) to grow for 12-15 weeks at 10-14 °C. Avoid higher temperature, because high temperatures reduce the plant quality and the foliage will grow too much. For cut flower production in cold greenhouse set up the plants in intervals. Flowering pots can be stored in cold storage-room for 4 weeks at 0,5-2 °C.

Stage I Starts with the radicle breaking through the testa. The roots are touching the medium. Ends with fully developed cotyledons.

Stage II Starts from fully developed cotyledons. Ends with the fully developed true leaf or true leaf pair.

Stage III Starts from the fully developed true leaf or true leaf pair and ends with 80% of the young plants being marketable.

Stage IV All young plants are ready for sale and in the process of being hardened off. This stage lasts about 7 days.

The cultural recommendations are based on results from trials conducted under Central European conditions. Different conditions in other parts of the world may lead to deviations in results achieved.