



**PRIMULA MALACOIDES (Fairy Primrose) CULTURE**  
**GRIFFIN GREENHOUSE & NURSERY SUPPLIES, INC**  
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Primula Malacoides have fragrant small flowers of pastel colors borne on short flower spikes above medium green foliage. Used as a flowering winter potted plant in a bright location, it will provide weeks of fragrant blooms.

**Growing Media** - Well drained Peat-Lite, or Pine Bark based mixes with a pH of 5.3 – 5.8 are acceptable.

**Pot Size and Spacing** - 1 per 4 1/2" pot can be finished 3/sq. ft., and 3 per 6 1/2" pot can be grown 1.4/sq. ft. The tight spacing that can be used enhances profitability.

**Temperatures** - Primula Malacoides prefers somewhat warmer night temperatures than Primula Acaulis, but is still a cool crop. Night temperatures of 50 - 62° F are acceptable with 50 - 55° F being ideal. Day temperatures 55 - 65° F produce the brightest colors. Some shade is required from April 1<sup>st</sup> to October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Timing** - From 1" plugs, Primula Malacoides finish in about 12 weeks at recommended temperatures. From cell pack size liners 8 - 10 weeks are required.

**Fertilizer** - Primula Malacoides is a light feeder, and excess salts damage the roots. 20-10-20 at 100 ppm constant feed, or 200 ppm every other irrigation is recommended. The 20-10-20 should be rotated with 15-0-15 approximately every fourth fertilization. Fertilizer concentrations above 200 ppm can damage the roots of Primula Malacoides and should not be used. Avoid the use of high ammonia fertilizers. Griffin can provide water tests that can be used to provide a more specific fertilizer program.

**Pest Control-**

Botrytis, aphids, thrips and whiteflies are the most common pest problems. The bulletin titled, "Insecticide and Fungicide Options", is available at no charge to Griffin customers.