

Lagedijkerweg 20  
1742 NB Schagen  
the Netherlands  
Phone: +31 (0)224 - 590 173  
E-mail: [info@green-works.nl](mailto:info@green-works.nl)  
[www.green-works.nl](http://www.green-works.nl)



## Peonies for Pot

### Cultivation information Peonies for pot

Herewith we would like to offer to you our assortment of Peonies for growing in pots. Besides our normal assortment for cut flower production we also have a specific assortment suited for pot growing. In the end of May to early June are our peony fields a beautiful sight of flowers and varieties. Make appointment with us and view all these wonderful colours and types. Here we have planted our whole assortment and compare blooming time and varieties among them selves.

Please note that Cultivation information and description are based on Dutch growing conditions.

#### **Potting:**

Peonies can be best grown in a 15 to 25 cm. Ø pot.

Roots can be pruned back to fit the pot.

It is important to cover the whole root with approx. 3 – 5 cm. of potting mix; roots and/or eyes should never dry out.

Size of planting material we suggest is 3-5 eye roots or 5 to 7 eye roots.

#### **Soil-type:**

The soil mix needs to be able to hold enough moisture with enough drainage and air for good root development.

Peonies do not like wet roots in the winter; make sure they are on a well-drained container field.

Recommended fertilizing schedule for beginning of crop:

PH: 6.0 – 7.0

EC: 0,8 to 1.0

#### **Pinching:**

No pinching required.

When you pinch plant, stem will not grow back.

#### **Planting:**

Outside: from September through March.

#### **Crop time:**

Sales: from April through to June.

#### **Watering:**

Directly after potting plants need a good drench of water, so soil can make good contact with the roots.

Watering is a very important part of the growing process. Ebb and flood watering is ideal for a uniform crop. Peonies will also handle watering overhead during the crop, preferably in morning including fertilizer. The amount of water is very depending on temperature and evaporation. The potting soil should not dry out during the growing process.

### **Fertilizing:**

Peonies need a lot of N especially in the beginning of the shoot development. Make sure enough N is available to the plant in this stage; when this is not the case the Peony is more susceptible to Botrytis.

End of January: extra N + K.

Just before growth: 7-14-28 / 12-10-18 plus organic material.

### **Climate:**

Before cooling starts Peonies need a period of warmer temperature for root development.

It is important that Peonies get enough cold in wintertime, minimum of 8 weeks at 2 degrees C. as of December 15 (when cooling is done in cooler, first water pots and then seal CC trolley to prevent pots from drying out). Cooling creates development of the shoots (eyes). It is possible that due to a shortage of cooling not all shoots (eyes) develop; they will not emerge.

In early spring when plants just come up protect stems / shoots from night frost (flower buds can abort by frost). Peonies need maximum light to prevent stretching of the flower stem.

### **Growth regulators (PGR):**

To control the height development of the plant you can spray with chemical growth retardants like Alar (Daminozide).

### **Diseases and insects:**

When shoots of the Peony start to emerge drench container with solution of Collis. Collis prevents many problems like Botrytis etc. during growing season.

During the active growing season in spring spray every 2 weeks against Botrytis until the buds / plants are fully developed. Especially Teldor and Kenbyo are good and effective sprays to use.

The most common insects with Peonies are aphids and leaf nematodes; spray for example with Vertimec Gold and MesuroI.

**To get Peonies flowering in container is difficult. There is always a relative large percentage that does not produce a flower. The right varieties, a good cooling program and an efficient spraying program will improve the percentage of flowering Peonies in pots.**

To make sure we deliver good and healthy plant material our plants meet the following specifications:

- Young and healthy plant material (from 2 year old roots)
- True to variety
- Free of nematodes
- Free of perennial weeds
- Dutch grown (Limburg)
- Healthy plants; good size: 2-3 eye roots 90 per crate, 3-5 eye roots 60 per crate (use this as guideline; can vary by variety).

**For peonies we have specific full color labels (picture tags) available, please enquire.**



When you are interested in growing peonies for cut flower production please request our catalog or check our website.

*A clean environment always works positive on a good plant development and reduces the risk of diseases. We also recommend to properly space the plants in time.*

For all varieties we have professional pictures, labels (picture tags) and other promotional material available; please inquire.

*Not suitable for human consumption.*

Green works is a supplier of young planting material for the professional cultivation of pot plants and summer cut flowers. For more information please check [www.green-works.nl](http://www.green-works.nl)

For more information please contact:

**Daan Kneppers**  
**Mobile nr. 0031 6 51 82 47 12**

**Ed Kleijbeuker**  
**mobile nr. 0031 6 24 94 64 05**

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Green Works International BV can never be held liable for any Cultivation information given and only to be used as a guideline.

Grower is at all times responsible for their own action and to read the label of the chemicals being used.