

## Fact sheet of culture of Paphiopedilum

The Paphiopedilums are relatively common orchids, more known as hooves, they adapt easily to our homes and require relatively low lighting, the proximity of a window being sufficient

### **LIGHT :**

Excess light results in cold greenhouse plants, yellowing of the leaves, and in others, a brightening of the green. It is important to know, however, that a lack of light can prevent flowering. Species with plain foliage usually require a little more light

Except in the early hours of the morning, the Paphiopedilum must not be exposed to direct sun rays; in an apartment, place your plant in your interior 1 m from a window, that it enjoys maximum winter light. In summer, sift through a veil.

### **TEMPERATURE :**

The ideal temperature at night is, for solid green species 10° to 12° C and for other species 15°C to 18°C. The day temperature for both groups can be between 21° and 27°C. However, short periods of lower or higher temperatures, are not harmful to plants.

In summer, if it is difficult to maintain a temperature below 30°C, the plants can be taken out, and placed in the shade of large trees; in warm areas the shade must be increased to the maximum.

Like other orchids, the Paphiopedilum likes to live with constantly moving air, this air must be moist and at the appropriate temperature, so no dry, cold or hot air. The degree of humidity must be 40 to 50% by day.

### **WATERING :**

The Paphiopedilum does not store water so its roots must always be moist, the watering will be done by dipping or watering from drying of the substrate (The frequency depends on the seasons) however, this substrate should never be sogged.

Always ensure that leaves do not stay damp at night to avoid fungal attacks and never water in the heart of the plant at risk of seeing it die in the days that follow.

### **HUMIDITY :**

Regular but moderate watering throughout the year. One liter per week in the summer, every 10/12 days in the winter by adding low-dose fertilizers.

Maintain a humidity of about 60% throughout the year.

Ventilation is essential for cultivating Paphiopedilum; it promotes heat exchange and homogenizes temperatures.

### **FERTILIZER :**

the Paphiopedilum is not very greedy, a weekly fertilizer intake see every 10 days happy.

### **SUBSTRATE :**

Every two or three years, in the spring, as soon as the new growth appears. Repotting is preferred after flowering; if it is used to divide, it is necessary to keep two old shoots plus one new for each plant.

For repotting, one chooses a relatively small pot, one drains the bottom with shards of broken pots, which one covers with a good centimeter of compost, on which one places the plant, of which all the dead roots have been removed, the filling of the pot is completed up to a centimetre above the base of the rhizome; too deep the roots can rot, not enough they develop badly. Let's compress the compost.