

URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

From Seed to Harvest: A beginner's guide to growing Primrose

Primroses are frequent additions to gardens, as borders or in containers. They come in a wide variety of colors such as white, yellow, pink, orange and red. There also are purple and blue primrose varieties. Primroses prefer woodland conditions, such as damp areas.

To plant:

Begin primroses inside in the wintertime. Sprinkle the seeds in trays and cover them lightly with soil or vermiculite. Then, place the trays in a plastic bag and place in freezer for two weeks. Remove from the freezer, poke holes in the bag and place it near a north-facing window. Two weeks later, move the tray to a south-facing window. Once the primroses have their second or third true set of leaves, transplant them outside. When planting outside, space the plants 6 to 12 inches apart. Water thoroughly after planting and add a layer of mulch around the base of the plant.

To grow:

Primroses grow best when planted in a partially shaded area in moist soil. Water the primroses weekly, sometimes even more frequently if there is a period of drought, but begin to water less frequently when fall arrives. Continuously prune out dead leaves or blooms, and this will prolong the primroses' blooming period.

The most common pest affecting the primrose plant are slugs or snails. To control this problem, use a nontoxic slug bait around the garden. Aphids and spider mites also can be a problem, and these are controlled by spraying the bugs with soapy



[Primrose seed available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

water. Primrose plants require good drainage or they can fall victim to crown rot or root rot. To fix or prevent this problem, amend the soil to give it better drainage or move the primroses to a more well-draining site.

To harvest:

Although not a great flower option for a bouquet, gardeners can enjoy a primroses' bloom in the early spring. Blooming should last throughout the summer.

What Primrose craves:

After amending the soil when you plant your primroses, establishing a feeding schedule can help them become healthy plants. Begin your fertilizing when the plants begin to bloom, and you should use either a water-soluble or liquid high-bloom fertilizer, such as a 3-20-20 blend, which is low in nitrogen. After you begin the process, reapply the fertilizer monthly as long as the primroses are in bloom.



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Where to buy Primrose seeds:

Urban Farmer carries Primrose seeds that bloom into a beautiful yellow that is often used as a groundcover or utilized to spill over a retaining wall on our website at ufseeds.com!



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