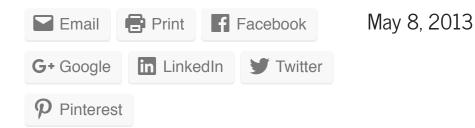
#### **Trending Now**: 2018 California Spring Trials

# Plant Culture

# Tips For Growing Otomeria O'Premiera





by CHANOCHI ZAKS

When it comes to standing up to summer's worst, nothing's better than the Otomeria O'Premiera series. This hot plant choice — native to East Africa — doesn't just survive but thrives in the most intense sun and the hottest heat that nature can provide.

O'Premiera, the only commercially produced Otomeria series, includes four colors: Baby Pink, Pink, Ruby and

Previous Article



May 8, 2013 The New Generation Of Verbenas

**Next Article** 



5 Verbenas You Can't Do Without

#### Latest Stories



7 Steps To Create Great Combos



September 8, 2015

June 6, 2016

Vivero Internacional **Continues To Expand Unrooted Cutti...** 



August 19, 2015

**Greenhouse Growing** Recommendations For Lobularia



September 16, 2014

Ball FloraPlant's Las **Limas Facility Provides** Gro...

December 31, 2013

White. All are hardy to Zone 11.

Growing 14 to 18 inches tall and 12 to 14 inches wide, they are ideal for containers and landscape plantings alike. With an upright, well-branched habit, these sun lovers stay a pleasing, compact size. O'Premiera varieties flower continuously in warm weather and high light, typically through summer.

#### General Culture

For a 5-inch (12 cm) pot, use one plant per pot. Plants will be ready for sales (from rooted cutting) within six to eight weeks. For 6-inch (15 cm) pots, use one to two plants per pot, and they'll be ready in seven to nine weeks. For 10-inch (25 cm) pots, use three to four plants, and expect sale-ready plants in nine to 11 weeks. Optimum growth conditions include day temperatures of 68°F to 88°F and night temperatures of 68°F to 74°F. To root cuttings, keep temperatures at 72°F to 75°F. Expect rooting in 14 to 18 days.

Plants excel at temperatures of 86°F and above, but growth ceases around 59°F and injury starts to appear under 50°F.

#### Irrigation And Fertilization

Watering varieties in the O'Premiera series requires a careful balance, as they're susceptible to root rot. This is a particular concern when roots are less active in low-temperature conditions. Keep plants evenly moist but avoid overwatering.

Use a balanced fertilizer in a constant feed of 150 to 200 parts per million of nitrogen. Choose a product with a slight increase of iron and average levels of micronutrients.

#### Light And Media

For the most floriferous, compact plants, provide maximum light intensity; full sunlight is best. Another possibility is up to 40 percent shading, although that may add the need for plant growth regulators and a second pinch. Flowering is compromised and plants stretch with heavier shade levels.

O'Premiera prefers a potting mix that drains well and is



Successfully Propagating Yellow Petunias





November 19, 2013 **Suntory Flowers** 

Releases Its New Grower's Guide A...



October 17, 2013

Next Generation Coleus Offers Production Advantages



May 8, 2013

Tips For Growing Otomeria O'Premiera



November 8, 2012

How To Decide What Varieties To Grow



October 30, 2012

New Programs Require Staff Support



April 2, 2012

Lantana Finished Production Tips



April 2, 2012

Lantana Propagation Tips



March 7. 2012

Lobelia: Finished Production Tips

March 5, 2012

disease-free. The electrical conductivity (EC) level should be kept within a range of 0.6 to 0.9, with pH levels maintained at approximately 5.5 to 6.5.

#### Controlling Plant Growth

O'Premiera performs best with one pinch, at the height of two pairs of leaves. Pinch in trays, with targeted timing approximately seven days before planting, or about a week after liner planting and establishing.

With high light, growth regulators won't be necessary. At your discretion, one to three sprays of daminozide or alar (B-Nine, for example) may be applied according to required plant size at 2 grams per liter.

#### **Pest Control**

Maintain a vigilant scouting and monitoring program to prevent any insect and disease activity.

Watch for and take steps to prevent Botrytis when rooting cuttings in high humidity conditions. GG

### Leave a Reply

## More From Annuals Production...



April 19, 2018

California Spring Trials 2018: New Intros from Syngenta Flowers, Hishtil, Jaldety...



Lobelia: Propagation Tips



October 12, 2011

Late-Season

Combination Containers



October 11, 2011

How To Overcome

Downy Mildew Spread
On Impatiens

August 3, 2011

Using ABA To Reduce Water Loss In Chrysanthemum & A...

July 25, 2011

Making Water Work For Growing



April 19, 2018

CAST 2018: Dr. A's Favorites From

Syngenta Flowers, Bailey Nurseries, and...



April 19, 2018

Spring Trials Rookie Inspired by

Connections



The leader in profits, production, and education for greenhouse growers.

© 2018 Meister Media Worldwide