

# Chlorophytum orchidastrum

Cultivation manual — young plants from seed

- Striking foliage plants with orange stems and deep green leaves
- Upright, clump forming habit
- Easy care, air-purifying houseplant





**Chlorophytum orchidastrum 'Princess Mabel'** is a stunning, subtropical foliage plant, with an vigorous upright, habit. This colourful, Chlorophytum has striking bright orange petioles that illuminate the centre of the plant, creating a spectacular contrast with its deep green pointy leaves. Chlorophytum orchidastrum is native to subtropical areas of southern Africa and Asia, where it grows as an herbaceous perennial and easily adapts to varying dry or humid climate conditions. Chlorophytum is well-known for being an easy-care houseplant with air-purifying qualities.

## Plant profile:

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<b>Genus:</b>	Chlorophytum
<b>Species:</b>	orchidastrum
<b>Variety:</b>	Princess Mabel
<b>Family:</b>	Liliaceae
<b>Common names:</b>	Mandarin plant; Siera Leone lily; Spider plant
<b>Life cycle:</b>	Evergreen perennial
<b>Usage:</b>	Houseplant
<b>USDA Hardiness zone:</b>	Zone 9 to 11
<b>Plant habit:</b>	Upright, vigorous and clump forming
<b>Finished plant height:</b>	30 to 50 cm



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## Pot culture:

<b>Tray sizes (cells/tray):</b>	Tray 66 hole 3+
<b>Culture location:</b>	Greenhouse
<b>Availability:</b>	Year round
<b>Average young plant production time:</b>	9 to 11 weeks

### Recommended pot sizes:

Chlorophytum Princess Mabel: 12 to 14 cm pots

### Plugs per pot:

12 to 14 cm pots: 1 plug per pot

### Plant density:

12 cm pot:	15 pots per m <sup>2</sup>
14 cm pot:	10 pots per m <sup>2</sup>

### Crop time from plug to finished product:

12 to 14 cm pots: 18 to 22 weeks

### Pests/diseases:

Whiteflies, Spider mites, Thrips and Caterpillars.

Root mealybugs and Scales.

Sometimes botrytis occurs, when days are short.

To prevent Pythium and Phytophthora, make sure to keep the pot not too wet.

## Finishing:



### Soil/media:

Use a well-drained, soil mix with a pH of 5.6 to 6.2 and an EC of (1:1.5) 0.5 – 0.7 mS/cm.



### Moisture:

Keep the soil moist, but not wet. Apply regular irrigation (in the morning), preferably using rain water to keep the foliage in the best condition. Watering with ebb/flow floors or sub-irrigation is preferred.

A relative humidity of 75 to 85% is ideal.



### Temperature:

Ideal greenhouse temperature is between 18 to 22°C. To harden off or store, keep temperatures above 16°C.



### Light:

Start screening at 350 watt, with LS 15 or 16. Apply chalk at 450 watt from mid spring to the end of summer to keep the RH in the greenhouse on track.



### Fertilization:

Chlorophytum is sensitive to high salt levels in the pot. Do not fertilize overhead. Use a balanced controlled-release fertilizer and a constant feeding program. The selected fertilizer should not contain fluoride and boron content. EC target value in the pot (1:1.5) 0.5 – 0.7 mS/cm. Set EC release at 1,2-1,6 and pH at 6,2.

## Cultivation tips:

- The plant is susceptible to pressure in the root system caused by humidity differences in the pot and in the RH. Maintaining a stable, non fluctual climate is key.

## Notes:

This information is for general guidance only, and is in some cases specific for North West European conditions. No guarantee is given for the result of the crop, nor is liability accepted for the consequences of applying the indications given.