

# *Paphiopedilum*

I grow several of the very common and easy Paphs in a window sill in my living room. Two of my favourites are *P. Leeanum* gx and *P. Pinocchio* gx. *Leeanum* is a *spicerianum* × *insigne* hybrid with big beautiful flowers that last about 6-8 weeks. My farther's old neighbour's mother got this clone at her golden wedding anniversary around 1970 and my fathers neighbour generously gave away divisions. The other one is *P. Pinocchio* gx which is *glaucophyllum* × *primulinum*. The flowers are smaller with less color, but it has 10-14 consecutive flowers on each stem and each flower lasts about 4 weeks, which means it has been flowering almost constantly for nine years. I grow both mature *Paphiopedilum* and seedlings in rockwool growcubes (Grodan 1-cm mini-growcubes).

I couldn't resist crossing these two. With the four grandparents, some clones should have interesting flowers over a long period and nice leaves. I sowed the seeds from green pods about three months after pollination, since the pods developed slower than *Cypripedium*. Germination was fine on my liquid fertilizer medium and the seedlings were taken out of the flasks when they had small roots and leaves. The flowers however, showed little variation, but all had several flowers per stalk.



*Paphiopedilum* 'Leeanum' is a primary cross between *P. spicerianum* and *P. insigne*.



*Paphiopedilum* 'Pinocchio' is a primary cross between *P. glaucophyllum* and *P. primulinum*.



*Paphiopedilum* Maudiae 'Magnificum' gx (*callosum* × *lawrenceanum*) is another vintage lady's slipper that grows and flowers well in a shaded window sill.



Leeanum × Pinocchio seedlings right from the flask..



Leeanum × Pinocchio seedling version 2.



Leeanum × Pinocchio seedling version 1.



Leeanum × Pinocchio seedling version 3.