



Orchid News

The Acadian Orchid Society
September 2022

September Meeting and Program

This month, we will enjoy a video:

Plants Behaving Badly - Sex and Lies

More sex than any group of plants should be enjoying! And that group **IS** orchids.

Jodeen Davis and Flo Young have very generously offered to provide snacks.

Date: September 19

Time: 7:00 p.m.

President's Message...



Signs of Heat Stress and Damage

One of the best advantages of having orchids is that they let you know immediately if there is a problem. If you have accidentally left your orchid outside, in the car, or under an artificial light for too long, then immediately check for these signs of heat stress and subsequent damage.

- Freckles
- Red or purple tint
- Withering of leaves or flowers.

Much like humans, an orchid can burn, and it will show immediate signs of it. If you see any red or purple on the leaves, then your orchid was likely burned. However, even if you don't notice any immediate symptoms, that does not mean that your orchid was not damaged.

Other symptoms of a heat stressed or damaged orchid that may show up within 24-48 hours after exposure are:

- Yellowing leaves and/or stems
- Withering leaves
- Brown leaf tips and roots
- Bud blasting (loss of buds)
- Flowers dropping prematurely
- Withered pseudobulbs

Brown and burned roots in combination with the dried up pseudobulbs means that your poor orchid has little to no chance of recovery because the pseudobulbs are the moisture reserves. Under these conditions, pseudobulbs will only drain in cases of extreme heat exposure.

We need a couple of tech-savvy volunteers

Our equipment is capable of showing videos, powerpoint programs and other media which we can download for presentation. It may be too "vintage" for streaming content. We really need a few people who can readily assemble and load programs for us to enjoy. A/V nerds! Two would give us a backup.

September Birthdays

September 1—Jodeen Davis

September 1—Remy Judice

September 1—Lisa Judice

September 7—Stephen Dufresche

September 16—Hannah Vedrines

September 20—Barbara Alexander

Here's hoping your day is filled with flowers!



Greetings!

I wanted to introduce myself, I'm retired and wanted to share my knowledge about fertilizer formulation over the years...Free of Charge...No Obligation.

I have a special coated Orchid Plant Food Spike that feeds all types of orchids for 60 days. Contains 9 essential micronutrients for greener leaves and long-lasting blooms, humus for poor bark soils, sea kelp provides natural plant growth hormones, and my corrhizae fortifies rooting filaments.

I would be happy to share it with you and your members...Free Sample of 10 Spikes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Steve Keyson

www.optimumfertilizer.com

News from August...

We will host an orchid show and sale in April, and are hoping to schedule it on the same date as Festival des Fleurs—this would bring in lots of plant enthusiasts and perhaps lure in some new orchid fans.

Chip Thompson showed a few beautiful plants he recently scored on eBay, and also displayed some baskets, full of possibilities, available at the Dollar Tree. \$1.25 is still a bargain!

Harold Letz presented a program on growing orchids from seed—a process that is both fascinating and time-intensive. We are all very glad that somebody does this (who is not us). Plans for our 62nd Annual Louisiana Orchid Short Course are rolling along. We have firmed up speakers and topics, and in the next few months we will allocate some of the other tasks—snacks, clerks for the judges, chauffeuring the “talent” etc. Mark your calendars and loot your children’s college funds! It will be a fun day of education as well as some welcome socializing.



Voting on our blooming plants was as follows:

Cattleya: 1st—Meta

Flanagin—somebody forgot to write down the name, but it has a lot of C. tigrina perhaps.



2nd (tie) C. (Chocolate Drop x Portia) and RLC Su-



varnbhumi Delight ‘Salmon Queen’ both by James Broussard

3rd—C. Moon River—Billy Guidroz



Dendrobium: 1st—Den. Elassie Stripe ‘Three Lips’ - Nancy Anne Rowe
2nd—Den. Aradongrian—Bobby Gianelloni
3rd—Den. delacourii—Nancy Anne Rowe



Catasetinae:
Clowe-setum



(Clowesia x Catasetum)- Jackie Bravo



2nd—Ctsm. Orchidglade—
Meta Flanagan
3rd—Ctsm (expansum x saccatum)

News from August (cont.)...

Miscellaneous: 1st—
V. Lou Sneary (falcate
x coelestis) - Meta
Flanagan



1st —
Oeceo-
clades
ionio-
clab—Meta Flanagan
2nd—Bulbo. Carniculatum—
Billy
Guidroz



2nd—Miltonia
Goodale 'Moir' -
Nancy Anne Rowe



3rd—Doritis champoensis—
Billy Guidroz



3rd—Onc Sweet Sugar—also
Billy's
plant



Our Website



www.acadianorchidsociety.org

Our Facebook Group Page



Top Ten Orchid Growing Tips

By Susan Taylor

Read, read, read

If you are going to be serious about your orchids you need to learn all that you can about them. There are any number of good books on the subject. Online there are websites with great information. There are also a number of forums where you can ask questions and get information from experts. Use these resources -- that's why they are there.

Buy Orchids for your environment

One of the biggest mistakes new enthusiasts make is buying plants just because they like them, not because the plants will grow in their environment. Do some research, talk to other orchid growers and find out what will grow best under your conditions. You will be happier because your plants can thrive and your plants will be happier, too.

Buy Flowering Size Orchids

Start out with blooming size plants so you can enjoy the flowers immediately and work to rebloom those plants. Some types of orchids can take up to 12 years to grow large enough to bloom. By all means, once you know what does well and works in your setup, then try seedlings or smaller plants.

Quarantine New Plants

New plants should be kept in a separate area for a month. They should be sprayed and dunked every week for that time period to kill any pests in any stage of development before you put them with plants with no pest problems. Believe me, this will save you a great deal of grief in the long run.

Join an Orchid Society/Go to a Show

One of the best ways to learn about orchids is to join an orchid society and talk to people in your area are growing them. It is important to read and learn about orchids from books, but there is nothing like talking to someone in your city about how to grow a specific orchid. Going to an orchid show is another great idea. You can see plants and there are usually vendors to buy from, too.

Provide extra humidity for indoor plants

Grouping plants together will increase humidity around them all. Putting the plants in a tray with pebbles and water will help. If you do this, be sure to put a saucer under the plant so that the bottom of the plant is not sitting in water.

Always sterilize used pots

Once you are an established grower you will need to repot your plants. Always sterilize used pots overnight in 1/2 cup bleach per litre of water before reusing them. You do not want to pass along either pests or pathogens to new plants when you use the pot again.

Use Rainwater for watering

Always use good quality water for your plants. Never use softened water, it will kill your plants. If possible, try to use rainwater or bottled water if you have a small collection. Especially in the winter, make sure that the water you use is approximately air temperature or you will encourage fungus on your leaves and your plants can develop pitted leaves from cold water.

Provide extra artificial light for indoor plants

The most common cause of the inability to re-flower orchids is lack of light. If you are able, add artificial light to your growing area and use it especially during the winter in the northern latitudes to increase light to approximately 12 hours per day. Most tropical orchids and their related hybrids will thrive with the extra light.

Be careful of decorative pots

Be very careful of those wonderful decorative pots or cachepots. Most orchids are killed by too much water and there is a real danger when using decorative containers as they can hold water at the bottom and keep your plants much too wet for much too long. Make sure that your plants have drained thoroughly before replacing them in their cachepots.