

Massachusetts Orchid Society

P.O. Box 1041
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OCT 2022

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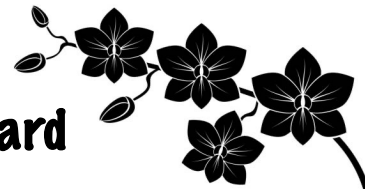
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Minute Minutes

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◆ *The MOS Annual Show and Sale* opens October 21st and the display committee...

NEEDS YOUR BLOOMING ORCHIDS!! Help us design our best-ever display! Now is the time to look over your collection for potential entries.

We ask that your orchids are healthy and pest-free.

THE MASSACHUSETTS ORCHID SOCIETY PRESENTS

World of Orchids
The Amazon

Orchid Show & Sale
October 21-23, 2022

Sons of Italy Hall
117 Swanton Street
Winchester, MA

www.massorchid.org/show

Cattleya violacea Photo Credit: Motohiro Sunouchi

◆ MOS needs you! Volunteer for:

- Set-up & breakdown
- Clerking
- Admissions
- Greeters
- Membership
- Raffle Table
- Hospitality

For details and sign-up sheets, click [here](#) and type in your name! The annual show brings us great public exposure, new members and most of all, it's just plain fun, but we need you to be a part of it.

MOS Show Committee



Hi Members! If you have ever thought about clerking for the MOS Show, now is the time to volunteer. You not only will get your steps in for the day, but will get a bird's eye view of the exhibits and see first-hand what makes a plant an award winner. Judging/clerking takes place on Friday, October 21, at the Sons of Italy Hall in Winchester, between 8:30 and noon(ish). As a thank you for your effort, you will be provided with lunch, on the house, and have the afternoon free to enjoy the show.

If interested, contact Mary Ann Grigg : griggmaryann@gmail.com or text 508 769 4169,



Did you know that you can submit articles to the newsletter? Got extra orchid supplies you want to unload or looking for garden swaps? Submissions are due 14 days prior to monthly meetings.

Email Anne at newsletter@massorchid.org to post or advertise.

Got extra orchid supplies you want to unload? Looking for garden swaps? Advertise right here in our new Minute Minutes Member's Classified section. Email Anne at newsletter@massorchid.org to post in the next newsletter.

We are always interested in suggestions for speakers and topics, plus ideas for special programs for upcoming general meetings. Please email them to mos-board@googlegroups.com.

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/massorchid and Instagram at www.instagram.com/massachusettsorchid.

President's Message

I can't believe it's October already.

We, the members of the MOS, know that when spooky season comes around that it could mean only one thing: Show Season!

The MOS has been the first Orchid show of the season among our sister societies since forever and that puts a lot of pressure on us to perform. The show planning committee has been hard at work and as we are so close to gameday and I wanted to implore anyone that is available even for a couple of hours Friday - Sunday (October 21-23) to please volunteer!! If you want to help, but don't know what you can do please put your name under the general volunteer or at-large and we'll definitely have something fun and meaningful for you to do. We desperately need the help! There is a link to sign up further on in this newsletter.

I wanted to also take the time to give a huge thank you to the board, our auctioneers (some only enlisted after the auction started), and to all the generous donors for the incredible work put into growing the plants, and making the auction a resounding success.

Hope to see you all at our next meeting on October 11!



MOS 2021 display, The Caribbean



*The Massachusetts Orchid Society Presents The 2022 Orchid Show and Sale:
World of Orchids: The Amazon*

Tantalize your sense of smell and sight at the Massachusetts Orchid Society's 2022 Orchid Show at the Sons of Italy in Winchester, MA. The show will feature exotic displays of blooming orchids featuring the rainforests of the Amazon to showcase this year's World of Orchids theme.

There will be features for every level of enthusiast, from beginners to advanced growers, including hourly tours of the displays, plant raffles, seminars and educational events, vendors of specialty orchids and growing supplies, orchid art, lessons on how judges award their ribbons. We are also still looking for volunteers to help before, during and after the show. For more details, click [here](#).

Dates & Times:

Friday, Oct 21, 12:30 pm - 5 pm

Saturday, Oct 22, 10 am - 5 pm

Sunday, Oct 23, 10 am - 4 pm

Location:

Sons of Italy

117 Swanton St, Winchester, MA

For directions click [here](#).

Admission:

\$10 Adults

Free to MOS members and children 8 & under.

Purchase tickets online or at the door.

Workshop & Speaker Schedule:

Dates and Times

Topic / Speaker - TBA

Fri, Oct 21, 12:30 pm - 5 pm

1 pm

5:30 pm

Sat, Oct 22, 10 am - 5 pm

Sun Oct 23, 9 am - 4 pm

Vendors and Exhibitors - Learn about the vendors and exhibitors attending this show [here](#).

Participant Information

For plant registration **guidelines**, click [here](#).

For plant registration **forms**, click [here](#).

To Sponsor a Show Trophy, click [here](#).

To sign up for volunteering click [here](#).

Questions? Contact show@massorchid.org

Exhibits & Sales Area Open

AOS Show Plant Judging Session - Judges from the American Orchid Society will review the plants to determine if any qualify for AOS awards.

Open to the public.

Awards Ceremony

Exhibits & Sales Area Open

Exhibits & Sales Area Open

The Town of Winchester & SOI currently have no mask mandates for indoor events, but masks are welcome.

Large bags will be disallowed at the door. Please leave your backpack and large shopping bags in your vehicle. Bags may be subject to inspection upon exiting. Same day re-entry is permitted.

UPCOMING EVENTSMonthly AOS Judging at Tower Hill

01 Oct 2022 10:30 AM

Tower Botanic Garden,
11 French Dr., Boylston, MAPlease visit our website: nejcaos.orgMonthly Meeting – Bob Winkley AOS Judge

11 Oct 2022 7:30 PM

Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St.
Winchester, MA2022 Massachusetts Orchid Society Show & Sale: "The Amazon"

21–23 Oct 2022

Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St.
Winchester, MAMonthly AOS Judging at Tower Hill

05 Nov 2022 10:30 AM

Tower Botanic Garden,
11 French Dr., Boylston, MAPlease visit our website: nejcaos.orgMonthly Meeting – Bob Cleveland of Cleveland Orchids - Demo, "Repotting Compot Seedlings Into Small Pots"

08 Nov 2022 7:30 PM

Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St.
Winchester, MAMonthly AOS Judging at Tower Hill

03 Dec 2022 10:30 AM

Tower Botanic Garden,
11 French Dr., Boylston, MAPlease visit our website: nejcaos.orgAnnual Holiday Party!

13 Dec 2022 7:30 PM

Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St.
Winchester, MA**Bob Winkley presents "It's Show Time - Preparing Your Plants to Look Their Best!"**

In preparation for our Annual Show and Sale, Bob will explain Clerking, a Judge's perspective of ribbon judging and actual AOS Judging. He will discuss ways of preparing our plants and flowers for exhibition and then talk about the process of entering our plants for ribbon judging. All questions welcome!

An accomplished pianist, Bob has been growing orchids for nearly 40 years. He is a long-term AOS Judge and past-president of MOS, where he has been a member since 1985. Currently Bob is chairman of the AOS Northeast Judging Center at Tower Hill Botanical Gardens in Boylston, MA. Our show is the following week...making this discussion very timely.

Get your plants in shape for our 60th Annual Show in November 2012!

**2022 MOS Meeting Program**

Jan.	Mike and Daryl – repotting and mounting
Feb.	Fred Clarke of SVO – Becoming an 80 Percentile Grower
Mar.	Glen Decker (formerly Piping Rock Orchids)
Apr.	Francisco Miranda – Miranda Orchids
May	Carrie Reimann – The Orchidphile
June	Tim Culbertson
July	Kristin Uthus – New World Orchids
Aug.	MOS BBQ
Sept.	MOS Annual Auction
Oct.	Bob Winkley
Nov.	Bob Cleveland Orchids
Dec.	Annual Holiday Party!

How To Clean Orchid Leaves

Co-authored by [wikiHow Staff](#)

Last Updated: April 6, 2020

Orchids are a unique type of tropical flowering plant that have beautiful leaves which help retain water and absorb sunlight to nourish the plant. Cleaning your orchid's leaves is an essential part of [caring for your orchid](#). Wipe off the leaves to get rid of dust, dirt, mineral deposits, and insects to keep the leaves looking bright and healthy. Not only does regular leaf cleaning improve the appearance of orchids, but it also allows the leaves to breathe and soak up moisture better and helps keep pests away.

Things You'll Need

Water (optional)

Mild liquid dish detergent (optional)

Lemon juice (optional)

Rubbing alcohol or hydrogen peroxide (optional)

Dish, container or spray bottle

Spray Bottle (optional)

Cotton rounds (optional)

Paper towels (optional)

Part
1

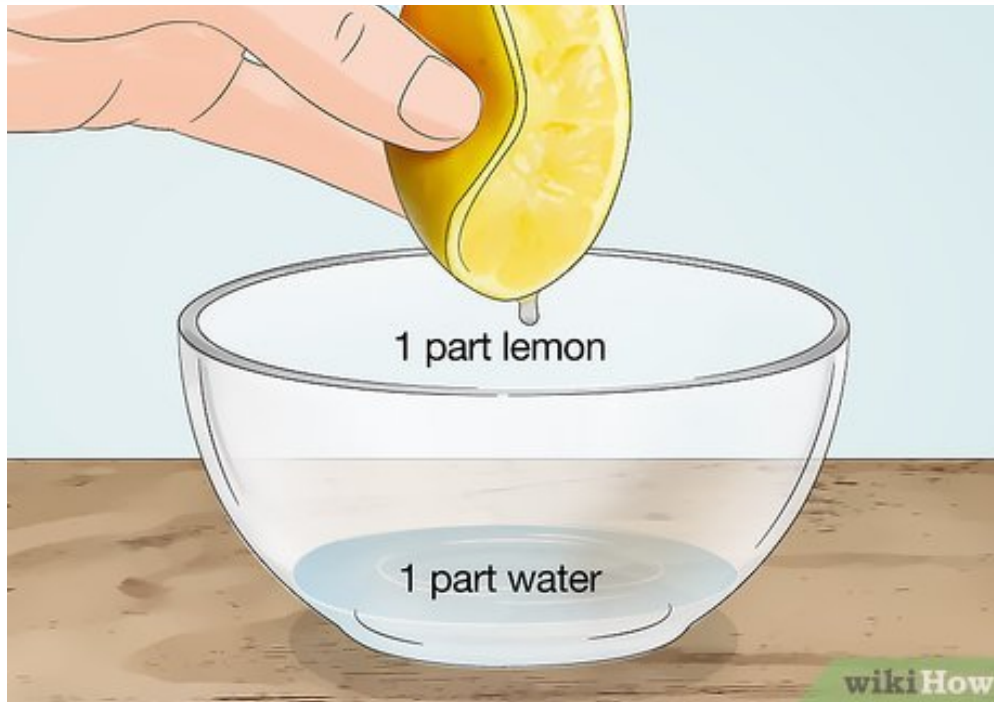
Part 1 of 2: Choosing the Right Cleaning Solution



1 Mix 1 drop of dish detergent with 1 c (240 mL) of water to clean dust off leaves.

Squeeze 1 drop of a mild liquid dish detergent into 1 c (240 mL) of water. Stir or shake the mixture to mix the soap and water.^[1]

- This solution works well when your main goal is to clean dust, dirt, or grime off your orchid's leaves.
- If you have a hard water supply, using a water-based cleaning solution can leave mineral deposits behind on the leaves. If this is the case, try a different method to clean the leaves or make this solution using distilled water instead of tap water.
- Examine your orchid's leaves at least once a week for dust, mineral deposits, and signs of pests. Removing dust, mineral deposits, and other grime from the leaves lets them breathe and absorb moisture better, so your orchid will be healthier and happier with regular leaf cleanings.



2 Use a solution of 1 part lemon juice to 1 part water to remove mineral deposits. Combine tap water and lemon juice in a 50/50 ratio. Mix the juice and water up well to combine the liquids.^[2]

- You can use lime juice instead of lemon juice to make this solution.
- The acidity in a citrus-based cleaning solution works to clean off mineral deposits left behind by hard water from cleaning or watering with tap water.
- Citrus also acts as a natural insect repellent.



3 Use rubbing alcohol or hydrogen peroxide to combat pests. Apply 70% isopropyl rubbing alcohol or hydrogen peroxide directly to orchid leaves without diluting it. This will kill pests like mites, aphids, and mealybugs.^[3]

- Don't ever pour rubbing alcohol or hydrogen peroxide into your orchid's soil or you can damage the root system. Only use it to clean your orchid's leaves.

Part
2

Part 2 of 2: Applying the Cleaning Solution



1 Wipe a cleaning solution onto leaves when there is dust or mineral deposits. Soak a cotton round in the cleaning solution. Wipe the solution onto both the top and bottom sides of the leaves to clean them off and make them shiny again.[4]

- Make sure you get the cleaning solution into all the nooks and crannies on the undersides of the leaves.



2 Spray a cleaning solution onto your orchid's leaves when they have pests. Fill a spray bottle with your chosen cleaning solution. Spray the solution all over the leaves using the bottle's mist setting to kill pests and keep the problem from getting worse.[5]

- If there are bugs clinging to the leaves and misting the leaves doesn't wash them away, use the bottle's single stream setting to try and dislodge them.



3 Wipe off the cleaning solution with a clean, dry paper towel or cotton round. Carefully and gently wipe away all the liquid from the tops and bottoms of the leaves. This will get rid of any remaining dust, mineral deposits, and insects and ensure that the cleaning solution doesn't leave behind any residue on the leaves.^[6]

- If you are cleaning multiple orchids, use a fresh paper towel or cotton round for each orchid to avoid transferring substances you cleaned off of one orchid onto the leaves of another.

Tip: Bugs especially like to live on the undersides of orchid leaves. Make sure you look closely around the edges, veins, and ribs on the bottom sides of the leaves when you're inspecting them for pests.



Meet your fellow MOS member, Steven Kirincich

My name is Steve Kirincich and I have been an MOS member since 1998. I did stop attending meetings for a 10-year period starting sometime after our second child was born. Life was getting more complicated for us and the move away from the Waltham site made travelling more difficult. For the last two years, I have started regularly attending meetings. Perhaps the monthly meeting will never be done via Zoom again?

My first significant exposure to orchids occurred at a farmers' market near Chapel Hill North Carolina in 1996 as I just moved south for a two-year position after completing graduate school in upstate New York. One of the vendors was selling orchids, and we struck up a conversation. I am not quite sure why these plants appealed to me, but I just accept that I was seduced by their "exotic" reputation.

I do not recall having more than a few orchids while in NC (selective memory?), but I do remember attending the monthly meetings of the Triangle Orchid Society. To this day, I find that attending society meetings is not just informative but also stimulating and motivating. That probably explains why my enthusiasm faded during my prolonged absence from MOS meetings as mentioned above.

Back when the newsletter was delivered by regular (snail) mail, I was the editor for a year or two. The late George Bonoff asked me to take over for him, and I remember visiting him and his wife Roberta in Brookline so that he could pass on his knowledge as the editor. I suspect he lived close to a bakery because I remember him offering me a yummy berry tart that could not have been more than a few hours old. I was hesitant to take on the responsibility and uncertain if I was capable, but I figured that an all-volunteer organization needs willing people who have benefitted from the contributions of current and past volunteers.

When I first joined the MOS, I was one of the younger members – just like Brandt! I recall that Bill McDaniel was the President and I remember the dazzling cymbidiums brought by George Baltoumas, Dr. Neptune's amazing plants and many others. I remember some animated auctions and still cannot forget one particular time when it was getting quite late and specimen-sized cattleyas were going for \$10. I remember watching "The New Yankee Workshop" with Norm Abram and seeing Linda Abrams appear as a guest craftsman. At a later meeting, I let Linda know that I had never met a television star before. I am no longer one of the younger MOS members, but perhaps that is a good sign.

For the last seventeen years, I have been growing an ever-expanding collection of orchids in Concord, MA. My locations and conditions in and out of the house have evolved over the years, and I am reasonably confident to say that that I am a much better grower than I was five years ago, but I continue to relearn lessons from the past. Having connected with a neighbor who is also an MOS member, I have learned quite a bit from him and we have been able to help each other when on vacation. Since reading "Classic Cattleyas" by the Chadwicks, I have definitely caught the bug. Certainly, the enthusiasm of past President Brandt Moran has also played a role in my growing interest in this genus. I have also had some success with *latouria dendrobiums*, cymbidiums, phragmipediums, and phals. *Paphiopedilums* and *castasetums* still remain a mystery to me. I have also tried my hand at growing seedlings from flasks and compots. In theory, I will try growing orchids from seed if I ever finish building my laminar flow hood.

My motivation for submitting this introductory piece and perhaps others in the future is the result of my time as a past MOS Newsletter editor who regularly dealt with the monthly challenges of trying to find relevant content for each issue. This continues to be a challenge. I hope to document my growing experiences in subsequent articles fully aware that there are many accomplished growers in the society. I think there is always room for more member contributions, and I believe my thoughts and experiences may be useful and perhaps inciteful to others.



Bud Blast

By Susan Jones

It can be heartbreaking to watch helplessly as long-awaited orchid buds brown, die and drop instead of becoming those much-anticipated flowers. Bud blast, when buds wither and fall from an otherwise healthy plant, may occur through any of a number of causes. Buds are the most sensitive part of an orchid, and are easily affected by unsuitable conditions in the growing environment. Cattleyas, Phalaenopsis and Dendrobiums seem particularly susceptible to this problem. The most frequent reasons for this are as follows.



Orchid flowers can abort for a variety of reasons, but the end result is always the same. Fortunately, precautions can be taken.

Water

Under- or overwatering is a common cause of bud blast. If a plant becomes too dry, it may withdraw moisture from buds as a survival mechanism. Overwatering can damage the orchid's root system, with the end result being a lack of water to the plant. As with underwatering, when the plant is unable to absorb sufficient quantities of water, it will withdraw water from the buds, bringing about their demise. Budding Cattleyas are particularly sensitive to overwatering, which can cause buds to blacken and die while still in their sheath. Water that is allowed to sit on buds or in bud sheaths provides the perfect environment for fungi and bacterial growth, generating rots that will blast buds. Watering with cold water can shock a plant, causing bud drop.

Temperature

Temperature extremes or rapid temperature changes are often a culprit in bud blast. If a budding orchid receives drafts from a window, an air conditioning or heating vent, or even a rush of air from a hot oven, it may drop buds. Similarly, buds may blast when exposed to temperature fluctuations that occur when taking a plant in from the car or outside during hot or cold weather, bringing plants back into a heated house after a summer outdoors, or temperature extremes caused by running heating or air conditioning for only part of the day.

Atmosphere

Orchid buds are sensitive to fumes from paint, natural gas leaks and other chemicals. Once pollinated, flowers generate methane gas, causing them to collapse and saving energy for seed production. Methane or ethylene gas from other sources may also trigger bud or flower collapse. Ethylene gas given off by ripening fruit; gas leaks; inefficient burning of gas stoves or heaters; engine exhaust; cigarette, cigar or pipe smoke; open fires; smog or air pollution can also cause bud blast and age and distort open flowers.

Light

If lighting available to its developing buds is inadequate, an orchid won't flower properly. Low lighting can cause buds to abort. Too much lighting may also cause trouble; direct sunlight on developing buds can overheat and desiccate them, leading to bud blast.

Chemical Damage

Fertilizer, fungicide or pesticide applied at dosages above a plant's tolerance or in a manner inconsistent with manufacturer's instructions may damage buds, causing them to drop.

Humidity

Developing buds need high humidity. If their environment is too dry, or the ambient humidity fluctuates a great deal, buds may be adversely affected and drop.

Insects

Aphids and thrips can cause bud blast. These insects feed on flowers and flower buds, sucking the plant juices. The buds of infested plants fail to develop properly, dropping from the plant or opening to damaged and disfigured flowers. Thrips can be controlled using Diazinon or Malathion. Aphid control often involves not only eliminating the aphids themselves, but also the ants that farm them. Insecticidal sprays and sugar-based ant baits are recommended. For a few aphids, dab with a cotton swab soaked in rubbing alcohol. Other means of control include insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils (Neem or Sunspray), growth regulators and chitin inhibitors (Enstar II), Pyrethrum-based insecticidal sprays, stronger insecticides (Malathion), and systemic insecticides (Orthene, Shield).

Repeat any treatment method twice after the initial application at seven- to 10-day intervals to kill successive generations. Test new controls on a small population of plants before widespread use. When using insecticides, check labels to be certain the insecticide works against the particular pest and that it is approved for use on orchids. Always use any chemical in strict accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

Genetics

Occasionally, even under perfect cultural conditions, an orchid will continually abort buds. There may be a genetic mutation responsible for its inability to produce viable blooms, in which case the plant should be discarded.

References

Bud Blast. 2002. Helpfuls and Tips.

Hamon, Avas B., PhD. 2002. Orchid Pests. In: Orchid Pests and Diseases. American Orchid Society, Delray Beach.

judywhite. 1996. Taylor's Guide to Orchids. Houghton Mifflin Company, New York.

White, Phillip Z. Questions from Users Answered, Orchid Pages.

Susan Jones was the editor of Awards Quarterly and assistant editor of Orchids. American Orchid Society, 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach, Florida 33446

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• THE AOS CORNER •



Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton

Orchid related questions, answered by AOS experts.

Click [here](#) to watch now.

Note the specific times below if you wish to watch or listen to those topics.

- 00:01 mini bogs
- 02:05 Dendrobium nobile leaf damage
- 05:46 Phalaenopsis air roots
- 08:10 Aerial root damage
- 09:43 Orchiata New Zealand Bark
- 13:48 Arpophyllum giganteum culture
- 17:00 Spider mites using Organocide
- 20:29 Cattleya leaf damage and treatment
- 24:52 Bud blast Vanda (syn Ascocenda) and Sarcophilus
- 30:07 Cinnamon as a fungicide and insecticide
- 32:12 Dendrobium nobile growing nobile at sea level

Seasonal Orchid Care September/October

Click [here](#) for Checklist

Organizing orchid culture and its chores by season is a convenient way to make sure that your orchids get the proper care at the right time. Becoming in tune with your plants' growth cycles creates a connection with the natural world and makes you a better grower.

Officers, Directors & Committee Chairs

Officers

President	Dina Deresh	dinad@massorchid.org
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Show Table

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