

# Massachusetts Orchid Society

P.O. Box 1041  
Medford, MA 02155



**JUL 2019**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

June Show Table photos

J&L Sale Info

Monthly Speaker – Brenda Oviatt

AOS Corner

MOS Odds and Ends - **Final Call  
for Hospitality Volunteers**

AOS Article: *Snails and Slugs*

Officers, Directors  
& Chairs



Den. Jonathan's Glory 'Dark Joy',  
HCC/AOS, Ron Maloney



Promenaea Limelight x Crawshayana 'Springtime'  
AM/AOS, Linda Abrams ???

# ~J&L Summer Sale~

Guest vendors, lectures, orchid displays, door prizes, and a lunch picnic!  
Schedule for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday July 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>:

10:00 Sale Starts

12:00 - 12:30 Workshop/Lecture

1:00 - 2:00 Lunch Picnic

2:30 Door Prize Giving

3:00 - 3:30 Workshop/Lecture

5:00 Sale Ends

### Orchids and Wine

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> at 4pm

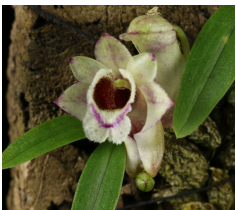
If you can't make it, there'll be a 10% online discount as well for all orders that weekend.  
For more info, please visit our website: [jlorchids.com/j-l-summer-sale/](http://jlorchids.com/j-l-summer-sale/)



**J&L Orchids**  
Extraordinary Orchids Since 1969  
Celebrating 50 Years!



**2019  
Summer  
Sale**



July 26-28  
10am-5pm  
20 Sherwood Rd.  
Easton, CT



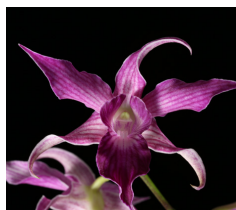
Lectures,  
orchid displays,  
door prizes, and a  
lunch picnic!

JLOrchids.com



### Guest Vendors:

Kelley's Korner Orchids Supplies  
Orchidphile  
Piping Rock Orchids  
Waldor Orchids





## UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly Meeting - Brenda Oviatt,  
Botanica Limited – Angraecoid  
Orchids – Keeping a piece of nature  
alive

09 Jul 2019 7:30 PM

*Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St,  
Winchester, MA*

Monthly Meeting - Helen Hersh -  
Advanced Windowsill Growing

13 Aug 2019 7:30 PM

*Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St,  
Winchester, MA*

MOS Annual Orchid Auction

10 Sep 2019 7:00 PM

*Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St,  
Winchester, MA*

Monthly Meeting – Kim Fedderson -  
Cymbidiums and Cool Growing  
Orchids

08 Oct 2019 7:30 PM

*Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St,  
Winchester, MA*

MOS Annual Orchid Show & Sale

08 - 10 Nov, 2019

Monthly Meeting – Gary Meyer -  
Growing Draculas

12 Nov 2019 7:30 PM

*Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St,  
Winchester, MA*

Holiday Party

10 Dec 2019 – Sons of Italy Hall,  
117 Swanson St, Winchester, MA

## *About Our Speaker, Brenda Oviatt*

Botanica Ltd. is owned and operated by Bill Nerison (architect) and Brenda Oviatt (graphic artist). Bill and Brenda began growing orchids in 1983 and over time their growing has evolved from a hobby into a two-part business. Half of their business involves growing and selling orchids (primarily species) to other interested growers. The other half is focused on the ex-situ propagation of endangered angraecoids and the education of hobbyists and growers concerned with the plight of many species of plants and animals from Africa and Madagascar. Brenda's talk, "Angraecoid Orchids - Keeping a piece of nature alive" is about conservation efforts, as well as cultural information for how to successfully grow angraecoids.

Botanica Ltd. will accept pre-orders (click [here](#)), but their website has very few things listed right now. Previous society members have described her sales plants as a "mini orchid show". There will be wide selection of orchids (not just angraecoids) available.

**Monthly meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.  
Please have your plants on the show table by 7 p.m.**



Lycaste aromatica,  
Linda Abrams



Pot. Cloud Nine 'SVO Best' x Circle of Life 'Fordyce Herald Angel' AM/AOS, Hanna ???



Pot Higher Multiplier 'Shocking Red' x Pot. Blast Furnace 'Red Hot', ???



Phal. Haur Jih Fancy 'Taida', ???



Laelia purpurata carnea, Linda Abrams





Phal. Haur Jih Fancy 'Taida' (Chingruay's Blood-red x Chingruay's Fancy), ???



Den. Gaetan Minet, Ralph and Chieko Collins



Cerastylis philippinesis, ???



Angraecum germinyanum, Ralph and Chieko Collins





*Stelis viridipurpurata*, Meg Bright-Ryan



*Dendrochilum filiforme*,  
???



Variants of *Laelia purpurata*,  
Brandt Moran, breeder



## • THE AOS CORNER •



## Seasonal Orchid Care: July/August

Click [here](#) for Checklist

Now you can access the MOS website  
from your smartphone with this new app!

The new [Wild Apricot for Members App](#) allows members to log in and view content from [www.massorchid.org](http://www.massorchid.org).

### What can your members do with the member app?

- View the member directory
- View a member's profile
- Email fellow members
- View the event calendar and event details
- Register for an event
- Specify the number of guests if the registration type was set up to collect the total number of guests only
- View your existing event registrations
- Pay an outstanding event registration fee
- View your member profile
- Currently, only an iOS version of this app is available. The app was designed for the iPhone, is compatible with the iPad and iPod Touch, and requires iOS version 10.0 or later.



## MOS Odds And Ends~

**Meeting Cancellation Notice Policy** Now you can find out whether a meeting has been cancelled (ie, inclement weather) by going onto our MOS webpage, where information will be posted after 2:00 PM. An email notice will be sent to all members, too.

**HOSPITALITY – FINAL CALL!** Sadly, this coming meeting will be the last with snacks and coffee provided. We've been incredibly lucky to have Ellen Shapiro looking out for us, but it's time to pass on the torch. Ideally, a few people working together sharing the tasks keeps it easy and enjoyable. If you are interested and/or would like to know more about how the hospitality setup/breakdown works, please email Ellen at [ellen@massorchid.org](mailto:ellen@massorchid.org) or chat with her (or anyone on the board) next meeting.

### **WELCOME, 2019-2020 BOARD MEMBERS!**

President Dina Deresh  
 VP Karyn Stewart  
 Treasurer Ellen Shapiro  
 Secretary Margaret Bright-Ryan  
 Past Pres Sasha Crotty  
 Directors: Adrienne Giovino, Brigitte Fortin, Cindy Sykes, Mike Badia, Anne Pfaff

**Monthly meeting - raffle plant donations?** If you have plant divisions, keikis or just plants that you want to put out for adoption, please bring them to meeting. As always, *bring only pest and disease free plants.*

**MOS Auction Chair** Mike Badia has volunteered to be this year's auction Chair. If you would like to help Mike, please reach out to him at our monthly meeting or email him at [mike@massorchid.org](mailto:mike@massorchid.org).

### **MOS Annual Show** Location – Sons of Italy, Winchester **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SET UP AND BREAK DOWN THE SHOW**

November 6 and 7 - set up  
 November 8th morning - judging  
 November 8th afternoon - open to the public  
 November 9th - all day  
 November 10th - all day and breakdown

**Roving greenhouse help** Learn all about greenhouse growing by lending a hand to some of our fellow members who need help in their greenhouses. *Please message Anne Pfaff at [newsletter@massorchid.org](mailto:newsletter@massorchid.org) for more information.*



# Snails and Slugs

By Susan Jones

Snails and slugs, ubiquitous orchid pests, can inflict a great deal of damage to virtually every part of an orchid. They wait for the cover of night to wreak their havoc. Snails and slugs, left unchecked, can infest a collection and kill your orchids fairly quickly.

If you grow orchids outdoors or in a greenhouse, these pests are likely to be found in the vicinity of your growing area. Indoor growers may introduce them with a new plant, which can harbor snails, slugs or their eggs unseen in the growing medium.

Snails and slugs eat mostly flowers, roots and tender new growths, although, if those are unavailable, they will consume any plant part. Because they do their damage primarily under the cover of darkness, they can be difficult to detect and eradicate.

There are many different types of slugs and snails that will eat orchids; some of the more common are the orchid or bush snails (*Zonitoides arboreus*), the brown garden snail (*Helix aspersa*), the field slug (*Deroceras reticulatum*) and the marsh slug (*Deroceras laeve*).



Early in the morning, you may be able to still find a snail that has been eating your flowers.

## Life Cycles

These creatures are hermaphroditic, so every individual has both male and female organs and is capable of laying eggs. The life cycle of the various slugs and snails that prey on orchids is generally about one year in the immature stage, and a second year as an adult. The immatures are smaller in size and lighter in color, but otherwise resemble adults in form. Adults lay up to 300 eggs in batches of 10 to 50 each. These eggs hatch in the spring in as little as 10 days during warmer weather, or up to 100 days in cooler temperatures. The average maturation period is about one month..

## Control

If the creatures themselves are not visible when the plant is inspected, telltale signs of their presence include their translucent shiny slime trail; holes with uneven brown edges eaten through the flower tissues; nibbled roots (thicker roots may have only small pock-mark-like holes eaten into them, while smaller, finer roots may be eaten clean through; tender new root tips are especially vulnerable); and new growths may be damaged or chewed down to a nub.

To control snails and slugs, baits are commonly available from garden-supply retailers. In addition, a number of low-tech, low-cost, and low- (or no) toxicity remedies have been developed. Whenever chemical controls are employed, check to see that the product has been approved for use on orchids, and carefully follow all instructions for the product's safe use. Also consider the health of any pets and your children.

### **Metaldehyde**

(bait or dust) Products containing metaldehyde are effective against snails and slugs, but highly toxic to mammals. If ingested, even small amounts of this chemical can cause severe nerve and kidney damage in humans, pets and wildlife.

### **Sluggo, EscarGo and Worry Free**

These snail and slug controls are organic baits in which the active ingredient is iron phosphate. They are safe to use around pets and wildlife. Once the baits are eaten, snails and slugs stop feeding and die within a few days. The baits are biodegradable, so whatever is not consumed will degrade into the soil over time.

### **Copper Tape**

This is purported to act as a barrier to slugs and snails, as it holds a small electrical charge that repels the critters. This method is most effective when the plants to be protected are located on a bench or in an area that can be cordoned off by the tape (checking first to be sure that none of these pests are already inside the protected area and will be trapped among your plants). The tape must be at least an inch wide, and can become dirty after a while, necessitating replacement. Its effectiveness is questionable; while some growers swear by it, others seem to swear at it.



Snails and slugs can cause damage orchid roots to the point where they stop growing.  
As with any chewing pest, they can spread disease.

### **Diatomaceous Earth or Dry Ash**

In sufficient quantity, these materials create a barrier slugs and snails are unable to cross. They need to be placed in sufficient quantity to repel mollusks; a swath 3 inches wide and 1 inch high should be sufficient. Both lose their effectiveness when they become wet, and so may not be the best choice of repellents.



## **Predators**

Snakes, toads, birds, possums, turtles and frogs all enjoy a good slug or snail snack if they can get one. As such, they make great biological controls. Consult your local garden club, agricultural extension office, or search online to find predators native to your locale and ways of encouraging them to visit your growing area.

## **Beer**

A favorite of some humans as well as mollusks, beer attracts snails and slugs. Place one or more small containers (clean, empty cat food or tuna fish cans area ideal) filled with enough beer to drown a snail or slug in the growing area. Empty out the stale beer and deceased pests every few days as needed, and replace with fresh beer.

## **Pet Food**

Dampen dry dog or cat food and place an inverted foil pie tin over it, propping up the tin enough on one side that the critters can get underneath. Check the tin every morning, removing and destroying the accumulated snails and slugs.

## **Handpicking**

Crush, kill, destroy. Although time consuming and sometimes messy, this is still an effective (and satisfying) method of control. Go out regularly after dark with a flashlight, and pick off and destroy any slugs and snails found on the plants. Do not use salt directly on the critters; although this does kill them, it may also get into your plants and growing environment, causing unwanted damage. Better to drop the pests into a container of saltwater solution.

As no one method is likely to be completely successful in eradicating slugs and snails, rotating or combining different controls may be the best defense against these pests. Vigilance and diligence are the best way to keep your orchids pest free.

## **References**

Down Garden Services. Some Garden Creatures, Slugs. Northern Ireland.

Fortner, Linda. Slugs and Snails. Orchidlady.com, Linda's Orchid Page, Suite 101 Articles, November 1, 2001.

Hamom, Avas B., PhD. Orchid Pests. In Orchid Pests and Diseases. Florida: American Orchid Society, 1995, pp. 45-46.

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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