

Massachusetts Orchid Society

P.O. Box 1041
Medford, MA 02155



DEC 2022

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Officers, Directors & Chairs



Minute Minutes

Notes from the Board

- ◆ The holiday auction and party is coming up on the 13th and the board is looking for donations. Magazines or books about orchids and other orchid related things, such as, artwork or collectibles are accepted! We will also be auctioning some lovely, healthy and very likely still blooming leftovers from our show.

Remember to check your plants for pests before donating.

The auction will be silent. Items can be previewed at auctria.events/2022MOSholiday/catalog.

To donate, please contact Linda, lindaa@massorchid.org, or Mike, mikeb@massorchid.org ASAP. Non-attendee drop-off deadline is December Dec. 11th.

To register, click [here](#) or visit www.massorchid.org.

Significant Others Welcome! Please RSVP by December 8th.

- ◆ January's speaker will be MOS member Mike Badia, discussing Paphs and Phrags. In April Kelly McCracken, of High Desert Orchids, will teach us about growing miniatures.
- ◆ The Show Committee is looking for volunteers for two upcoming shows:
CAIOS - Jan. 21-22.
NHOS - Feb. 10-12. Please email the show committee if you are interested in set-up, break-down, showcommittee@massorchid.org.
- ◆ **PLEASE RETURN YOUR YELLOW LAWN SIGNS.** Save \$\$\$ on replacement costs and bring it to the next meeting!

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.

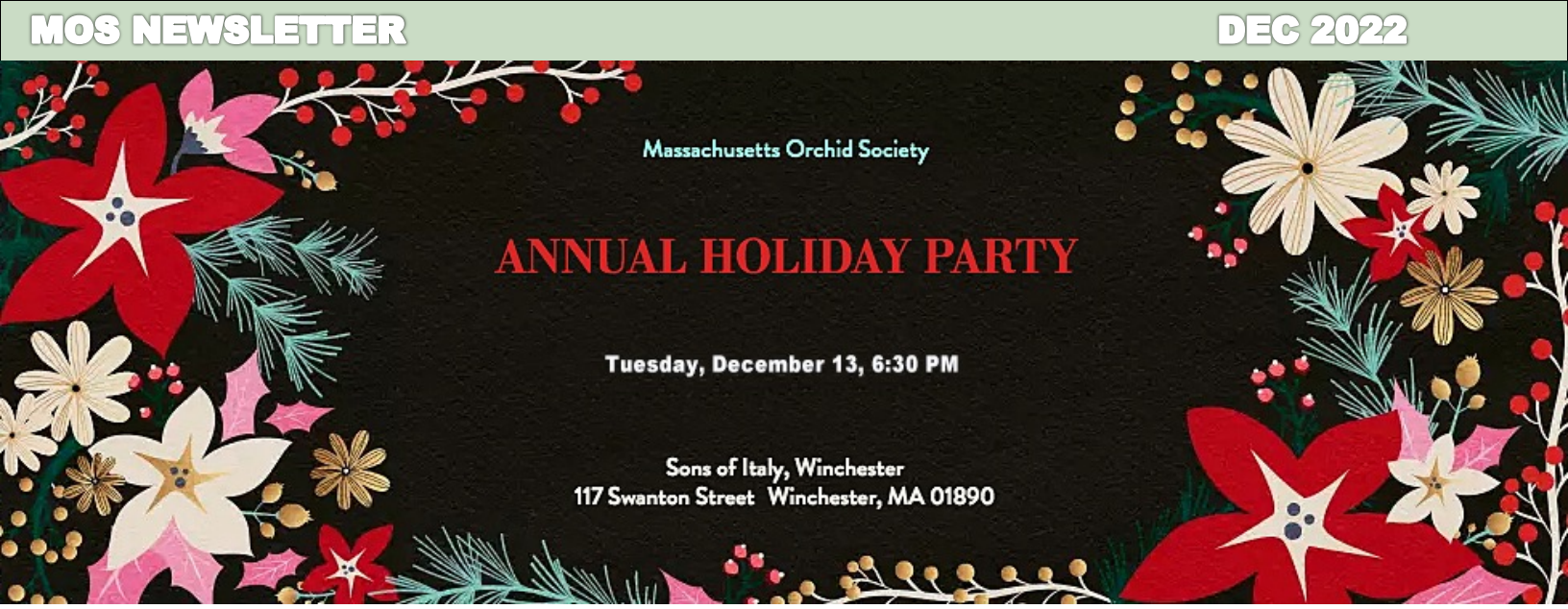
Email Anne at newsletter@massorchid.org to post or advertise.

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.





Massachusetts Orchid Society

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Tuesday, December 13, 6:30 PM

Sons of Italy, Winchester
117 Swanton Street Winchester, MA 01890

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS WITH MOS
at the
THE ANNUAL POTLUCK AND AUCTION

Turkey and ham provided by MOS

Cash bar from 6:30 to 9:30

Winners of the Charlie Briggs and Diamond Awards will be announced

The rest is up to you!

Potluck by the first letter of your last name:

A-H Desserts

I-P Appetizers or Salads

Q-Z Desserts

or bring your favorite main dish!

RSVP BY DECEMBER 8TH

SIGNIFICANT OTHERS WELCOME

The auction will be silent. A preview list with photos is posted on our website.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly AOS Judging at Tower Hill

03 Dec 2022 10:30 AM
 Tower Botanic Garden,
 11 French Dr., Boylston, MA
 Please visit our website: nejcaos.org

Annual Holiday Party

13 Dec 2022 7:00 PM
 Doors open at 6:00
 Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St.
 Winchester, MA

Monthly AOS Judging at Tower Hill

07 Jan 2023 10:30 AM
 Tower Botanic Garden,
 11 French Dr., Boylston, MA
 Please visit our website: nejcaos.org

Monthly Meeting

10 Jan 2023 7:30 PM
 Mike Badia, Paphs and Phrags.
 Sons of Italy, 117 Swanton St.
 Winchester, MA

North Jersey Orchid Society
 Rutgers University SEBS
 Floriculture and Teaching Greenhouse
Annual Show & Sale
 January 13-15, 2023



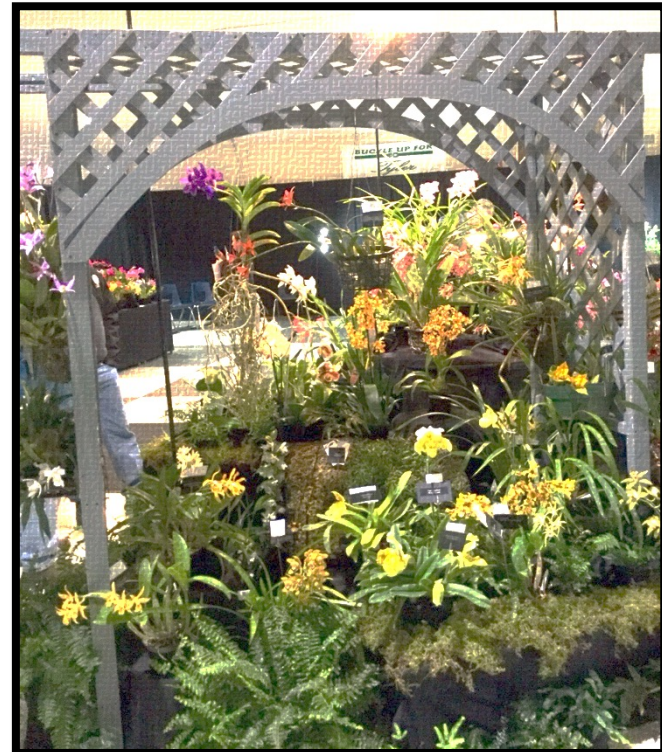
Friday Noon – 5 PM, Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM

Free Admission & Free Parking
 Breathtaking Orchid Displays
 World-Renown Vendors
 "Ask the Orchid Doctor"

Douglass Student Center,
 Rutgers University
 100 George Street,
 New Brunswick, NJ

Visit us online at njorchids.org
 Contact us at njorchids@gmail.com

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Cape and Islands Orchid Society presents

Orchids in Captivity

The Resort & Conference Center
 at Hyannis
 35 Scudder Avenue
 Barnstable, MA
 Hyannis West End Rotary

Saturday & Sunday
 January 21 & 22, 2023
 9am – 5pm

Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/child
 For more information, call: 774-255-1316
<http://www.caos.org>



Amherst Orchid Society Show
February 25 - 26, 2023

Smith Vocational and Agricultural
 High School, 80 Locust St Rt 9,
 Northampton, MA 01060

MOS Show Table Results, November 2022

Judges: Bob R., Linda A.

Scribe: Linda A.

Total Ribbons: 16

Name of Orchid	Name of Exhibitor	Light L,M,H	Temp W,I,C	Growing Location: Lights, Windowsill, Greenhouse? Judges' or Exhibitor's Comments?
Blc. Pamela Hetherington 'Coronation', FCC/AOS	Bob R.	H	W/I	Greenhouse
C. Gene's Dream 'Mendenhall'	Bob F.	H	W	Greenhouse & Lights
C. Nancy Off '640'	Brigitte F.	H	I	
L. harrisoniae x L. lucasiana	Linda A.	H	C	Lights
Sl. Minipet	Linda A.	H	C	Lights
C. Motte Spot 'Paradise' (C. Cognac x C. Fort Motte)	Brigitte	H	I	Lights
Rlc. Heaven's Gate 'Crystelle', FCC/AOS	Steve Ki.	H	W	Lights, Summer outdoors. From Krull Smith
Clow. Dragon's Treasure 'Gilberto', AM/AOS	Anne P.	H	I	Summer outdoors. Flowers multiple x's/year
Monn. Millenium 'Magic Witchcraft'	Ron M.			Summer outdoors
Phal. Yaphon Christmas redspots	Bob R.		W	Greenhouse
Den. macrophyllum	Steve Ki.		W	
Bulb. Laxiflorum	Daryl Y.		W	Greenhouse
Psh. prismatocarpum	Daryl Y.		W	Greenhouse
Gastrochilus dasypoger	Amanda L.		I	Windowsill
Bc. Deese 'Perfection'	Leslie J.		W	Windowsill. Fragrant!
Onc. Eye Candy 'Pinkie'	Bob F.		W	Greenhouse



C. Nancy Off '640', Brigitte F.



C. Gene's Dream 'Mendenhall', Bob F.



L. harrisoniae x L. lucasiana,
Linda A.



C. Motte Spot 'Paradise'
(C. Cognac x C. Fort Motte),
Brigitte F.

Blc. Pamela Hetherington 'Coronation',
FCC/AOS, Bob R.



Bc. Deese 'Perfection', Leslie James



Clow. Dragon's Treasure
'Gilberto',
AM/AOS, Anne P.



Sl. Minipet, Linda A.

Rlc. Heaven's Gate 'Crystelle', FCC/AOS, Steve Ki.



L: Monn. Millenium
'Magic Witchcraft', Ron M.





Gastrochilus dasypogon, Amanda L.



Phal. Yaphon Christmas redspots, Bob R.



Psh. Prismatocarpum, Daryl L.



Bulb. Laxiflorum, Daryl L.



Onc. Eye Candy 'Pinkie', Bob F.



Den. macrophyllum, Steve Ki.

'Ghost' orchids, now a candidate for federal protections, are at risk with every hurricane that blows through Southwest Florida

Hurricanes have a history of downing the trees that host the elusive flower.

By Julia Jacabo for ABC News

A spooky species of orchid at risk of disappearing forever as climate change worsens natural disasters, could soon garner conservation protections from the federal government.

The "ghost orchid," an elusive species in the orchid family that primarily resides deep in the swamps of South Florida, was announced as a candidate to receive protections under the Endangered Species Act on Wednesday, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Protections for the critically endangered flower are of the utmost importance because its survival is at risk every time a hurricane blows over Florida, Melissa Abdo, a regional director of the National Parks Conservation Association, told ABC News.

Historically, hurricanes have severely impacted communities of ghost orchids. After Hurricane Irma hit Southwest Florida in 2017, the high winds caused the destruction of 30% of ghost orchids' host trees, along with 30% of ghost orchids within the Florida Panther Wildlife Refuge alone. Between 2017 and 2018, nearly 50 mature ghost orchards in the preserve were lost, Abdo said.

There are fewer than 750 mature orchids left in the wild in the U.S., Abdo said, and conservationists have not even had a chance to survey damage to the flower's population caused by Hurricane Ian, a Category 4 storm that decimated parts of Southwest Florida last month. The destruction could be extensive, she added. "Park staff and conservationists alike want to do all they can to protect this really rare and beautiful plant, but they need more help," Abdo said.

When in bloom, the long spurs at the bottom of the ghost orchid resemble some popularized versions of cartoon ghosts. However, most of the time, all that is visible in the rare plant are the tangled jumble of green roots clinging to the trunks of its host trees. The rare flowering then occurs during the peak of the hot, humid summer in Southwest Florida, Abdo said.



A rare ghost orchid (Polyplocyris lindenii) grows in an old cypress tree at the Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary in Naples, Fla. The orchid has nine flowers and was spotted growing 45 feet off the ground by two visitors looking for owls. Photo: Miami Herald/TNS via Getty Images



Although the species is "incredibly iconic," they are only found in a tiny pocket of Southwest Florida, Abdo said. The current range of ghost orchids in Florida includes the Big Cypress National Preserve, Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park, Audubon's Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary and additional conservation and tribal areas in Collier, Hendry and possibly Lee counties. The flower is also found in Cuba.

In this photo released by the Center for Biological Diversity, a ghost orchid is shown in Big Cypress, Fla. Photo: Tony Pernas

The ghost orchids live in such remote locations that it took six months of searching through deep swamps of the Everglades for Abdo to find one in the wild for the first time, she said, describing the places where the flowers choose to bloom as "habitats truly out of fairy tales."

Climate change and poaching are the biggest threats to the species, Abdo said. In addition to the increase of frequency of intense storms that climate change is expected to bring, drought continues to dry up the swampy marshes of the Everglades, leaving less habitat for the ghost orchids to thrive. "The situation has been dire for some time," she said.

In addition, because the flower blooms so infrequently, it has an overall slow reproduction rate -- imperiling it even more, Abdo said.

"The ghost orchid is a testament to how biodiversity can have a monumental impact on our collective spirit and imagination," said Elise Bennett, Florida director and attorney at the Center for Biological Diversity. "Its rare and cryptic beauty has captivated authors, photographers and filmmakers alike. I really hope federal officials make haste and protect this gorgeous specter of our swamps before it's too late."



In this June 29, 2016, file photo, a twenty year old Ghost Orchid blooms for only the second time in the swamp at Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park in Copeland, Fla. Rhona Wise/AFP via Getty Images



Tiny Orchid Seeds Possess Understated Beauty and, Occasionally, Tools

Enterprising seeds secure preferred real estate by deploying coiled threads

By Jennifer Frazer, Reprinted from The Artful Amoeba

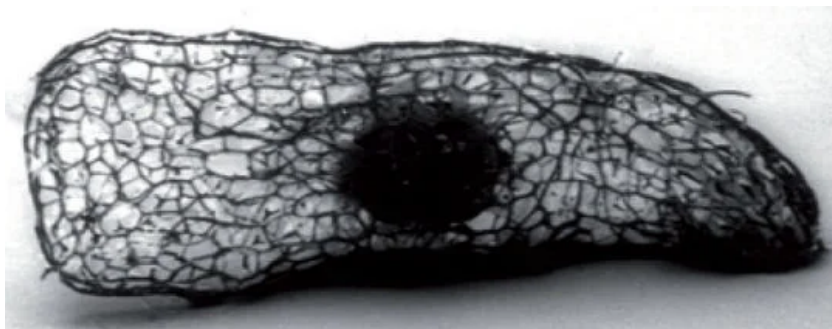


Credit: Barthlott et al. 2014

Lots of people get worked up about orchids, the apogee, or something near it, of floral extravagance. They are plants, whose flowers are so potent they can produce lust bordering on obsession. Their seeds, on the other hand, produce disdain. “Dust seeds”, botanists and fanciers alike scoff. Rarely has anyone bothered to take a closer look.

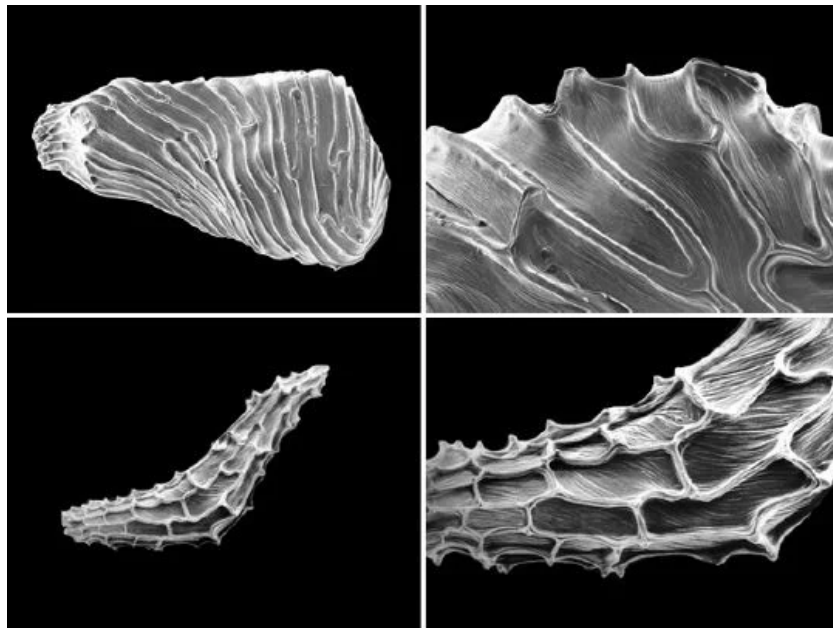
Over the last four decades, a team of German scientists finally did. Four years ago they published the first-ever monograph of orchid seeds, which documents their understated beauty and sometimes surprising complexity with thousands of scanning electron micrographs. Their findings demonstrate that orchid seeds are not as wholly uninteresting as their size suggests.

Even the simplest and smallest have a beautiful textured balloon-like coat that hides the miniscule embryo inside an air-filled cavity.



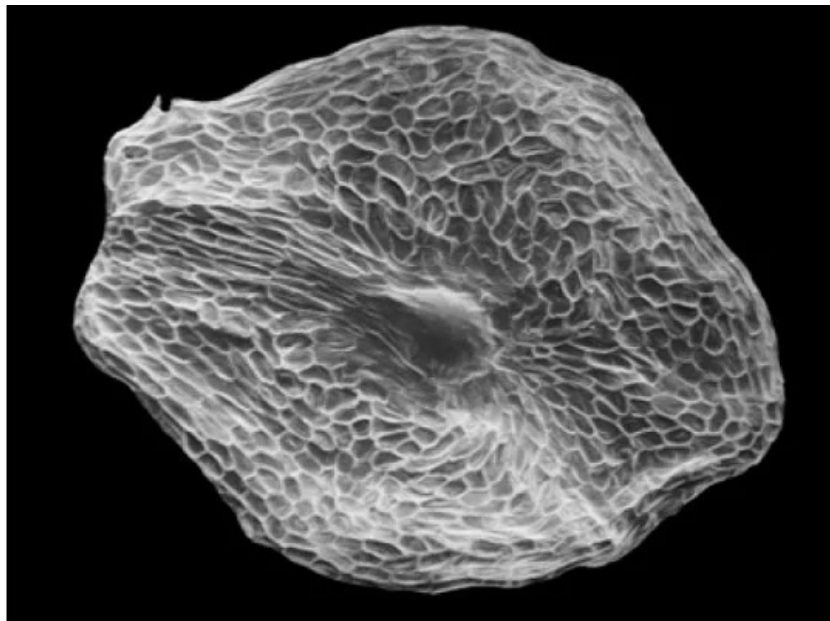
Special scanning electron microscope technique reveals the air-filled interior and simple embryo. Credit: Barthlott et al. 2014

The cells that construct the seed coat are so truly tiny that you can see (and count!) them. The ridges between them can give the seed a sculpted look.



Credit: [Barthlott et al. 2014](#)

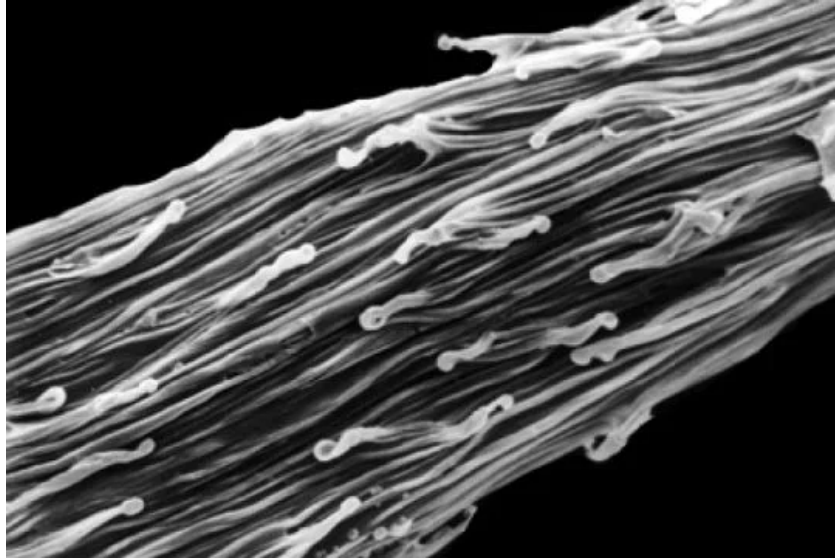
An orchid named *Vanilla* is the source of vanilla extract and vanilla “beans”. The seeds of *Vanilla* and its kin have a flattened blade to help them sail away on the wind, like the wing of a maple seed.



Seed of *Epistephium parviflorum*, a *Vanilla* relative. Credit: Barthlott et al. 2014

Something like this thing is what you’re eating any time you eat vanilla bean ice cream. These are the tiny black specks.

Another species, *Microcoelia obovata*, produces seeds covered in tiny hooks. Their object is to secure a home on the bark of a new twig, the preferred home of the epiphytic plants.



Seed coat of *Microcoelia obovata*. Credit: [Barthlott et al. 2014](#)



VACATION TIME FOR ORCHIDS: A DRY WINTER REST

COMPILED BY ED LYSEK AND SANDRA SVOBODA

MANY ORCHIDS GROW in areas where the weather turns drier, cooler, and brighter during the autumn and winter months. Frequent morning fogs are common. In most cases, the early days of the dry period are characterized by condensing morning fogs which deliver small amounts of moisture to the plant, progressing to much drier days during the last four to six weeks of winter. For these orchids to bloom and grow properly, a winter rest is necessary. You can achieve this by reducing your usual watering and fertilizing frequency in autumn and winter days. Some orchids that should not have water or fertilizer, and that is what we are describing in this article.

Grouping plants together that need similar care can help you in managing this change in your fall and winter care. When withholding water, if the canes or pseudobulbs of your resting orchids begin to shrivel or wrinkle, an occasional light misting may be necessary.

As with many things with orchids, there are differing opinions amongst growers. Here is our list, based on research of the experts in the field, of those orchids that need a dry winter rest with neither water nor fertilizer that will allow you to get the best out of your orchids.

Calanthes

Deciduous calanthes (the subgenera Preptanthe) bloom in the late autumn, and when the blooms are finished, and the leaves have dropped, restrict all water. When new roots appear, water sparingly until the leaves form.



©Lourens Grobler

Calanthe cardioglossa

<i>Calanthe cardioglossa</i>	<i>Calanthe rubens</i>
<i>Calanthe hirsuta</i>	<i>Calanthe rosea</i>
<i>Calanthe labrosa</i>	<i>Calanthe succedanea</i>
<i>Calanthe papuana</i>	<i>Calanthe vestita</i>
<i>Calanthe punctate</i>	



©Eric Hunt. Crown by Walter M. Shum

Calanthe vestita



Catesetum fimbriatum 'Golden Horizon'



Clowesia warszewiczii 'SVO'



Catamodes Dragons Tail 'Dark Tale'

Catasetinae

The Catasetinae is a group that includes a number of familiar genera, including *Catasetum*, *Clowesia*, *Cycnoches*, and *Mormodes* and the intergeneric hybrids. All these orchids have a distinct winter dormancy and an active summer growth phase. Once you understand their cultural requirements, this distinct growth cycle makes these plants fun to grow and flower.

- November 15 in the Northern Hemisphere (May 15 in the Southern Hemisphere): Reduce Watering! In autumn when leaves yellow, reduce watering to about half the amount and frequency.
- January 15 in the Northern Hemisphere (July 15 in the Southern Hemisphere): Stop Watering! In early winter, stop watering even if the plants are blooming or some green or yellow leaves remain. If they shrivel so much that you are concerned, mist lightly or occasionally, trying not to allow water into the root area.

- May 15-June 15 in the Northern Hemisphere (November 15–December 15 in the Southern Hemisphere): Begin watering when roots are three to five or more inches long. It's OK to slip the plant out of the pot to measure root length. Once watering begins, water like a monsoon!

<i>Catasetum</i> species and hybrids
<i>Clowesia</i> species and hybrids
<i>Cycnoches</i> species and hybrids
<i>Momodes</i> species and hybrids
<i>Catamodes</i> (<i>Catasetum</i> × <i>Mormodes</i>)
<i>Clowestum</i> (<i>Catasetum</i> × <i>Clowesia</i>)
<i>Cycnodes</i> (<i>Cycnoches</i> × <i>Mormodes</i>)
<i>Fredclarkeara</i> (<i>Catasetum</i> × <i>Clowesia</i> × <i>Mormodes</i>)
<i>Monnierara</i> (<i>Catasetum</i> × <i>Cycnoches</i> × <i>Mormodes</i>)
<i>Mormodia</i> (<i>Clowesia</i> × <i>Mormodes</i>)



Mormodes andreettae 'SVO' AM/AOS



Cycnoches lehmannii

Cattleyas, Laelias, Oncidiums

Many cattleyas, laelias, and oncidiums will finish growing by the end of autumn and should be hardened off with reduced water and fertilizer but not the Spartan regime of other genera. Fertilizing with less frequency will make these genera happy and prevent them from breaking into unwanted off-season growth that frequently delays flowering.

Dendrobiums

In some species of dendrobiums, a rest period is as vital as light, air, or water. Fertilizer should always be reduced during the rest period. The continued application only contributes to salt buildup in the potting mix and doesn't help the plant. Himalayan dendrobiums of the nobile type and the section Callista begin their vacation in late fall. They should be put in a bright spot

(especially if you live in an area where the light is decreased during the winter) and given no water or fertilizer until after they have bloomed in the spring. Some growers keep them bone dry, other heavily mist once or twice a month. When flower buds appear, you can increase the misting, but wait for your normal watering and fertilizing until you have flowering and new growths have started.

Some of the dendrobiums should have cooler temperatures during this time. To determine that, you need to do some research to determine the geographical location of the dendrobiums that you grow. Jay's Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia at www.orchidspecies.com is an excellent resource.

Australian dendrobiums: Most require watering sparingly during the winter. Those below require a much drier winter rest.

<i>Dendrobium kingianum</i>	Just enough water in winter so pseudobulbous stems don't become shriveled.
<i>Dendrobium macrostachyum</i> (syn. <i>stuartii</i>)	Withhold water until new growths are 1.5-2.0 inches (3.7-5.0 cm) long.
<i>Dendrobium tetragonum</i>	Some recommend no water during the winter while others recommend occasional misting.

Sec. Phalaenanthe

<i>Dendrobium affine</i>	Withhold water during winter rest.
<i>Dendrobium bigibbum</i>	Long, dry rest needed in winter. Mist to keep pseudobulbs from shriveling.
<i>Dendrobium williamsianum</i>	Prolonged dry period after flowering.

Sec. Spatulata (Antelope Type), no rest period



Dendrobium kingianum



Dendrobium affine

©Lourens Grobler

Sec. Dendrobium: Many with deciduous leaves need a dry winter rest. Others, not listed here, need reduced water, but should not be allowed to dry out for long periods of time, and have an early morning misting, with no fertilizer.

<i>Dendrobium amoenum</i>	Dry period of 3-4 months. Dry out between waterings.
<i>Dendrobium aphyllum</i>	Keep dry through winter and early spring with very occasional light watering.
<i>Dendrobium crepidatum</i>	Water much reduced, remaining dry for several days before light watering.
<i>Dendrobium crystallinum</i>	Withhold water until new growth starts.
<i>Dendrobium devonianum</i>	Dry rest from late autumn to early spring allowing to dry out between waterings.
<i>Dendrobium dixanthum</i>	Keep dry for several days between watering.
<i>Dendrobium falconeri</i>	Dry for extended periods with only occasional light misting.
<i>Dendrobium heterocarpum</i>	For 1-2 months in late winter, only occasional early morning misting.
<i>Dendrobium moschatum</i>	Dry for a few weeks after growths mature in the autumn. Occasional early morning misting.
<i>Dendrobium nobile</i>	Some growers eliminate water during winter, others only for last 1-2 months of winter.
<i>Dendrobium parishii</i>	Late winter for 1-2 months, limit to occasional early morning misting.
<i>Dendrobium signatum</i>	Dry for 1-2 months in early spring, only occasional early morning misting if pseudobulbs begin to shrivel.
<i>Dendrobium macrostachyum</i> (syn. <i>stuartii</i>)	Start dry rest when buds appear and withhold water until new growths are 1.5-2.0 inches (3.7-5.0 cm) long.
<i>Dendrobium tortile</i>	Dry in the late winter for 1-2 months, limit to occasional early morning misting.

Sec. Callista: Use just enough water to keep pseudobulbs from shriveling, no fertilizer.

<i>Dendrobium chrysotoxum</i>	<i>Dendrobium jenkinsii</i>
<i>Dendrobium densiflorum</i>	<i>Dendrobium sulcatum</i>
<i>Dendrobium farmeri</i>	<i>Dendrobium thysiflorum</i>
<i>Dendrobium lindleyi</i> (syn. <i>aggregatum</i>)	



Dendrobium parishii



Dendrobium thysiflorum

Sec. Latouria: No winter rest. Water throughout year.

Sec. Formosae (Nigrohirsutae Type) Many require a slight, short rest when growth is completed but they should not be allowed to dry out completely for extended periods of time. The following require a dry rest period in winter.

<i>Dendrobium christyanum</i>	For 1-2 months in late winter, allow plants to dry out completely. Mist occasionally.
<i>Dendrobium trigonopus</i>	For 1-2 months in late winter, allow plants to dry out completely. Mist occasionally.

Other Species

<i>Dendrobium tetragonum</i>	Some growers recommend no water during the winter, others recommend reducing water and allowing them to dry out between misting.
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Galeandra

Withhold water to the species after the growths have matured and the deciduous leaves have fallen. Mist in the early morning if the pseudobulbs begin to shrivel. Higher light is also recommended.

Habenaria

There are approximately 880 species of *Habenaria* that have been formally described. Once the aerial part of the plant dies, stop watering and keep the plant dry. In late winter, early spring, check weekly for vegetation and start watering lightly. If no vegetation has emerged by mid-spring, heavily mist the plants to encourage growth.



Dendrobium tetragonum subsp. *giganteum*



Dendrobium trigonopus



Galeandra batemanii

©Eric Hunt. Grown by Petite Plaisance

©Eric Hunt

©Eric Hunt. Grown by Golden Gate Orchids



©Eric Hunt. Grown by Walter Shimm

Habenaria rhodocheila



©Eric Hunt. Grown by White Oak Orchids

Anguloa virginalis

Lycastes, and Anguloas

The deciduous species should not be watered when the leaves have fallen. Those that are not deciduous should be watered less than usual. Return to regular watering when the flower stems are seen in mid- to late spring.

All <i>Anguloa</i> species	<i>Lycaste consobrina</i>
<i>Lycaste aromatica</i>	<i>Lycaste cruenta</i>
<i>Lycaste angelae</i>	<i>Lycaste luminosa</i>
<i>Lycaste bradeorum</i>	<i>Lycaste macrobulbon</i>
<i>Lycaste brevispatha</i> (syn. <i>candida</i>)	<i>Lycaste suaveolens</i>
<i>Lycaste campbellii</i>	<i>Lycaste xytriophora</i>
<i>Lycaste cochleata</i>	



©Lourens Grobler

Lycaste cruenta

Pleione

As days shorten in the autumn and growth slows, reduce watering. The leaves will start to yellow in late September, with *Pleione pleionoides* and *Pleione limprichtii* first. About three weeks after the leaves fall, the roots die off, so it is best to stop watering when the leaves fall. Even the autumn-flowering species begin their dormant period during the autumn. (Cumleton) (Cribb & Butterfield).

A word: you do your best to mimic the areas in which the orchids of the different genera we have discussed grow in situ, but often it is not possible to meet all the requirements. You can withhold water and fertilizer, with a bit of self-control. Then you can move your plants to different areas of your growing area to find a



Pleione maculata 'Snow White'

brighter, cooler spot if indicated; this may take a couple of years of trying to identify the proper place. However, finally, realize that you may not be able to provide all that the references say the plant needs. Try your best, and then, relax and enjoy your orchids.*

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About the Author



Ed started growing cymbidiums in his backyard in Claremont, CA over 30 years ago. He now grows a wide range of temperature-tolerant orchids in his greenhouse and in sheltered locations outdoors in Templeton, CA on the California Central Coast. Ed serves as the Vice President of the Five Cities Orchid Society.

• THE AOS CORNER •

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Mike Badia	mikeb@massorchid.org
Emily Dewsnap	emilyd@massorchid.org
Ralph DiFonzo	ralphd@massorchid.org
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Orchid Digest Representative	Brigitte Fortin	orchiddigestrep@massorchid.org

Orchid Show

Ralph DiFonzo	
Brigitte Fortin	show@massorchid.org

Orchid Show Program

Meg Bright-Ryan	program@massorchid.org
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Show Table

Mike Badia	mike@massorchid.org
Linda Abrams	lindaa@massorchid.org