

Cold Tolerance of Different Orchids

SAOS Beginners Culture Class - 2019 11 November

Most Cold Sensitive – Minimum Nighttime Temperatures of 55 to 60F

Hard Cane/Phalaenopsis-type and Antelope Dendrobiums – are very cold sensitive

Phalaenopsis – give them their cool snap to trigger blooming, then in for winter

Large Two-tone Vandas – Dinner plate vandas will start dropping leaves if too cold

Thick leaved Oncidiums – Mule Ear and Rat Tail Oncidiums are sensitive to cold

Most Orchids – Tolerate Minimum Nighttime Temperatures of 45 to 55F

Most cattleyas, thin leaved oncidiums and many other types of orchids can take these temps, keep plants in bud a little warmer. If you're not sure, protect all your orchids when temperatures are projected to drop below 50F

Cold Tolerant Orchids – Tolerate Minimum Nighttime Temperatures of 35 to 45F

Cymbidiums can often winter outdoors, sometimes protected only by frost cloth

Many of the spring blooming dendrobiums, the soft cane dendrobiums or nobile/seminobile types, the grape cluster type (like aggregatum) and Dendrocoryne section (including speciosa and kingianum) are tolerant of cold temperatures and may even bloom better after exposure to cold

The small Neofinetia types in the Vanda group are tolerant of cool temperatures

Tricks for Cold Winter Nights

If you grow in pool lanai, turn on pool circulation pump to increase temps a few degrees

Place plants against house with frost blanket.

Can tent area and turn on light bulb or electric heater for supplemental heat

Additional Links:

[Cold Tolerance of Orchids](#), Sue Bottom

[Winter Dormant Orchids Requiring a Dry Rest](#), Sue Bottom

[Caring for Orchids During Cold Weather](#), Martin Motes

[The Winter Rest Season](#), Sue Bottom

[Adjust Your Growing for Winter Light Levels](#), Courtney Hackney

[Less Light & Warmth Means Less Watering](#), Courtney Hackney

[Cold Damage to Orchids](#), Courtney Hackney