



St. Augustine Orchid Society

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Seasonal Tips for Cymbidiums
Staking the Emerging Flower Spikes
January and February

by Harry McElroy, cymbidiuman@msn.com

You should be seeing flower spikes develop on your cymbidiums over the next two months. You need to start training the spikes for best display when they first appear. This is not easy as the spikes are very tender right after they start to grow and are easily broken if moved. Pendulous cymbidiums should be allowed to grow naturally and downward without any type of training.

Arching or upright spikes display better if trained upward at first growth. Trying to move or stake early spikes will cause the spike to break off. Some growers place a name tag in front of the developing spike to guide it upward as it grows



A friend of mine in Cape Town in South Africa sent pictures of the device he uses to train cymbidium spikes as they grow. His brother who lives in Australia also uses this system. I make my spike trainers from 1" PVC pipe 12" long.

This system guides the spikes into position as they grow and protects the tender young spikes from damage.

