



CLUB NEWS



Kristen Uthus

January Meeting

by Janis Croft

Welcome and Thanks. President Tom Sullivan opened the meeting at 6:50 pm with 37 attendees by wishing all a Happy New Year. He thanked everyone for attending and bringing delicious dishes for the Christmas party and he particularly thanked all that stayed and helped clean up afterwards. Tom then

reminded all to “Drop a Dollar” for the treats which were provided tonight by Dianne Batchelder, Dottie Sullivan, Julie Smith and Ann McKenna.

Club Business. Membership VP Linda Stewart welcomed our visitors and introduced our new members Jennifer Corritore and Kathleen Snyder and returning member Richard Walter from Fort Myers. Linda asked the January birthday people to raise their hands for their free raffle ticket. As our Sunshine Coordinator also, Linda announced that if you know of anyone in need of a cheering up or a get-well card, let her know by emailing her at info@staugorchidsociety.org. You can pay your 2023 dues at the Welcome Table, send via Zelle to 904-501-0805 or use the PayPal link online.

Virtual Show Table – Courtney will Zoom into Cyberspace on Wednesday, January 11 at 7 pm to talk about all the pics of blooming orchids members sent in. We would love our show table to return to its former “live” glory, so start bringing your blooming plants to the meetings.

Culture Classes - Jerry Fowler, our Keiki Club Coordinator conducted his first culture class in the Pavilion from 6-6:30. He will be there to answer your “newbie” questions about orchids and demonstrate growing skills.



Orchid Shows in Florida this Month – The Florida shows are starting up. Sarasota’s is Jan. 7-8, Tamiami is Jan. 13-15, Krull Smith is hosting the Apopka International Orchid Festival from Jan.



20-22, and the Florida West Coast Orchid Society’s show is in St. Petersburg on Jan. 28-29. Check out the SAOS calendar for more details.

Repotting Clinics – Our monthly repotting clinics will start up again next month on the first Saturday (Feb 4) from 10 am til 1 pm at the Southeast Branch Library, 6670 US-1 N, St. Aug 32086.

Supplies – email info@staugorchidsociety.org if you need supplies. We’ll start blending up potting mixes next month.

Library – Librarian Howard Cushnir brought in several books which were promptly borrowed. He encouraged all to use the library collection listed on our SAOS website. If you would like a book or magazine, send a request to info@staugorchidsociety.org and he will bring the item(s) to the next meeting.

Recognition - Howard then commended Janis Croft, Communications VP, who takes all the notes and minutes of our meetings and Board meetings as well as handles publicity. He also thanked her for being his mentor when he was just an orchid newbie. All applauded Janis to her embarrassment.

Show Table Review. We had more plants and filled up two show tables this meeting! Courtney started with the Vandaceous group. Two *Rhynchostylis gigantea*s showed the variations in flower colors of these two likely selfings from Thailand. These plants do not like to be repotted. The Pda. Patricia Low is an intergeneric with semi-terete leaves. Next Courtney discussed the *Phalaenopsis* plants that are coming into bloom now. The Dtps. Taisuco Micky has many leaves and the inflorescences grow upright.

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Upcoming Orchid Events

January 2022

- 7-8 Sarasota Orchid Society Show
Sarasota Municipal Auditorium
- 10 JOS Meeting, Cattleyas, 6:45 pm
Courtney Hackney
Mandarin Garden Club
- 11 SAOS Virtual Show Table, 7:00 pm
Courtney Zooms into Cyberspace
An Invitation Will be Sent by Email
- 13-15 Tamiami International Orchid Festival
Dade County Fair Expo Center
- 14 Florida North-Central AOS Judging, 1 pm
Clermont Judging Ctr, 849 West Ave.
- 20-22 Apopka Int'l Winter Orchid Show
Krull Smith Nursery, Apopka
- 20-22 Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society Show
Fort Lauderdale/Broward Convention Ctr
POSTPONED TIL 2024
- 28-29 Florida West Coast Orchid Society Show
Seminole Recreation Division

February

- 4 SAOS Repotting Clinic, 10 am til 1 pm
Southeast Branch Library
6670 US-1 N, 32086
- 4-5 Venice Area Orchid Society Show
Venice Community Center
- 7 SAOS Meeting, 6:30 pm
Phillip Hamilton, Bredren Orchids
Broughtonias & Cattleytonias
- 11 Florida North-Central AOS Judging, 1 pm
Clermont Judging Ctr, 849 West Ave.
- 11-12 Boca Raton Orchid Society Show
Safe Schools Institute
- 14 JOS Meeting, Preparing Plants, 6:45 pm
Eric Cavin, Lorraine Conover
Mandarin Garden Club
- 15 SAOS Virtual Show Table, 7:00 pm
Courtney Zooms into Cyberspace
An Invitation Will be Sent by Email

24-26 Naples Orchid Society Show
Mooring's Presbyterian Church

March

- 3-4 Englewood Area Orchid Society Show
Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park
- 3-5 Martin County Orchid Society Show
Martin County Fairgrounds
- 4-5 Tampa Bay Orchid Society Show
Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center
- 4 SAOS Repotting Clinic, 9 am til noon
Southeast Branch Library
6670 US-1 N, 32086
- 7 SAOS Meeting, 6:30 pm
Steve Hawkins, Orchid Specialist
Oncidiums
- 11 FL North-Central Judging, 1 pm

St. Augustine Orchid Society Organization

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Courtney showed one of the summer blooming phals, which has lots of gigantea in its background that likes to grow big. It'll get 4-5 beautiful big leaves and inflorescences that continue to bloom so don't cut them. Next Courtney held up a *Dendrochilum bicallosum* and noted how well it was being grown. These orchids like to grow tight in the pot and needs lots of "good" rain water. Our club doesn't grow a lot of *paphiopedilums* but we did have two on the table. One of Courtney's *Blc. Teruo Nagai* hybrids, a big red with a big yellow, is named for a pal of his from Japan. The variation in the flowers of the progeny is wild! The *Rlc. Pastoral 'Innocence'* was noted for its large flowers that can be 7" across and Courtney said if you grow in high light you will see a blush in the white flower.

SAOS Program. Miniatures: Honey I Shrunk the Orchids. Dr. Kristen Uthus, owner of New World Orchids, joined us live via Zoom from her home in cold and grey Michigan. She offered all attending 10% off and free shipping to Sue Bottom's home if you buy plants from her website.

She began by asking the question, "What is a miniature orchid?" When she tried to find the answer she realized that AOS has no definitive definition. Some say plants that are less than 6" in height (not including inflorescence), other less than 12" in height and still others anything smaller than typical. Kristen says her miniature orchid definition is "she knows it when she sees it." Her background is in Biology so she showed us some slides to help us define miniatures. The first showed birds, an albatross vs a hummingbird. Both are birds but of varying sizes. Orchids are the same. A species can have very small plants and very large varieties.

Many people grow miniatures because they are running out of space. Many are happy on mounts and she has made her collection "vertical" by hanging miniatures around the pots of larger orchids like cattleyas. This also helps cover up the ugliness of such pots. Others, mostly northerners, grow miniatures in terrariums as it helps provide the moisture they need. Kristen likes growing miniatures because she finds them cuter. An example slide showed the *Sophranitis coccinea* and *cernua*. When an orchid is smaller, one can see more of the growth pattern and

tendencies. She continued to show slides of mini cattleyas she likes including *C. luteola*, *Laelia caulescens*, *Leptotes bicolor* and *Brassavola gardneri*. Kristen enjoys the Australian *Dendrobiums*, as they are most diverse in forms and flowers. For examples, she showed slides of *Den. nobile*, *Den. moniliforme* var. *Tensho*, and *Den. bellatulum*. *Dendrobiums* are light lovers and often their flowers last a long time. Kristen specializes in *Vandas* and *Neofinetias* and she showed us slides of her favorites that grow in lower light conditions, *V. cristata*, *Asco. pusillum*, *Asco. Moonlight Firefly* and *Ren. monachica*. *Bulbophyllums* also have miniatures such as *Bulb. frostii*, *Bulb. bicolor* and *Bulb. polliculosum*.

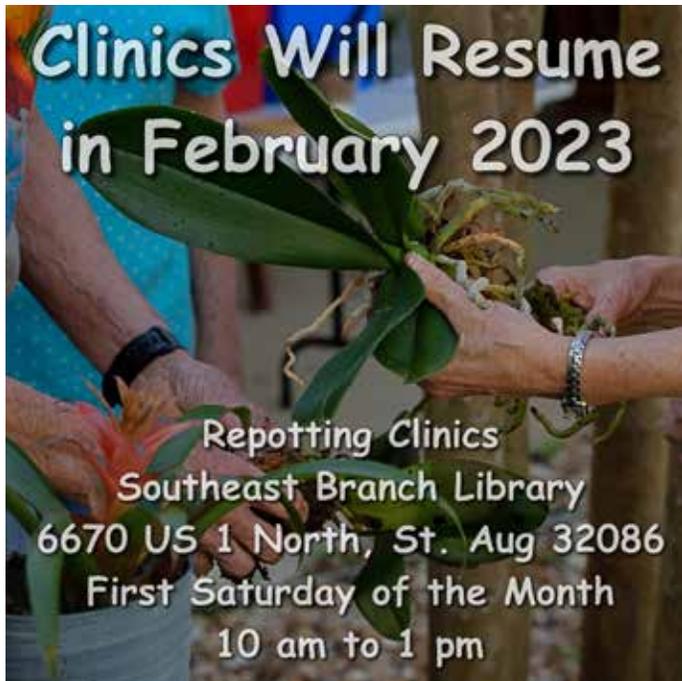
When growing or buying miniatures, there are several aspects of interest. First is the leaf color. For example, *Den. kingianum* can have variegated color leaves, the *Lepanthes calodictyon* has spectacularly veined petals that dominate the small flower, and the *Macodes petola*'s leaves are gorgeous. Kristen continued to show leaves from other minis and described them all as "living works of art." Another aspect of miniatures is the leaf texture ranging from fuzzy leaves as on the *Porroglossum hystrix*, or the hairy stems of the *Den. senile* to the textured leaves of the *Den. cuthbertsonii* (bicolor). Another interesting aspect of miniatures is their leaf shape, particularly in the Australian *Dockrillia Dendrobiums*. Kristen showed slides of *Dockrillia wassellii* with its terete leaves, *Dockrillia linqiformis* with its tongue like leaves and *Dockrillia cucumerinum* that has leaves shaped like cucumbers.

Kristen stated that there are "form" people and "flower" people. She showed slides of *Erycina pusilla*, *Podangis dactyloceras*, and *Ornithocephalus patentilobus* displaying their fan shaped growth. Form people are attracted to this aspect of the orchid and only then ask "what about the flower?" Where flower people gravitate to a plant's flowers first. "You know who you are." For the "flower" people, she next showed slides of *Sophranitis coccinea* with its impressive round, flat bright red flowers. She told a story of seeing a fence overgrown impressively with *Den. jenkinsii* in full flower. The plant did not look so good which led Kristen to provide this advice. Plants that are way too happy may have flowers that aren't great. A plant sometimes puts out a lot of flowers right before it is ready to die in order to propagate and keep its gene pool alive. So, her advice is to stress your plants a little in order to increase flower count, e.g. let them dry out once in a while. She ended by saying that just because the miniature orchids are smaller does not mean that they are any harder to grow.

Meeting Conclusion. The evening concluded with the Raffle table. Thanks to the helpful hands that stayed to help clean and store the tables, chairs and room.

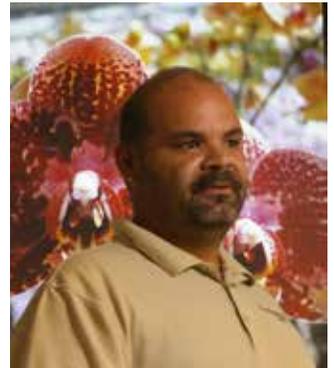


CLUB NEWS



February 7 Meeting Broughtonias and Their Hybrids

Phillip Hamilton will talk about the Broughtonia species and some of their hybrids, with lots of focus on how to grow them. Phillip was born and raised in Jamaica where he inherited his dad's passion for orchids and grew up working in his parents' orchid nursery, Hamlyn Orchids. His dad's orchid passion is with the Jamaican native Broughtonias and their hybrids. Phillip's passion also includes Phalaenopsis, which he has been growing and hybridizing since the age of eight.



Renew Your Membership

It's that time of year! The dues are \$20 for an individual or \$30 for a family if paid by Zelle (904-501-0805) or check (mail c/o Linda Stewart, 1812 Diana Drive, Palatka 32177). For an extra dollar, use the PayPal link on our [website](#). Easy Peasy!

February 7 Culture Class Potting Different Orchids

We have resumed the beginners culture class before the main meeting. The culture class is scheduled from 6 to 6:30 pm in the Pavilion across from the meeting hall. Jerry will talk about pots and mounting materials and the types of potting mix that work with different orchids. Guest speakers will tell you what works for them, but what works for them may not work for you.

American Orchid Society Corner

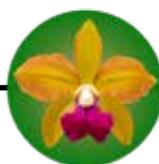
Webinars

January 4, 8:30 pm, Everyone Invited
Greenhouse Chat - Ron McHatton

January 5, 8:30 pm, AOS Members Only
Zygopetalinae – Tim Culbertson

Orchids Magazine this Month
Orchid of the Month – Tom Miranda
Early Subtle Signs of Virus – Sue Bottom

Photos of Latest AOS Awards

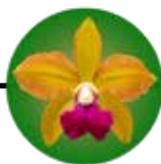


INSPIRATION



Habenaria crinifera

© Terry Botta



CULTIVATION



Orchid Questions & Answers

by Sue Bottom,
sbottom15@gmail.com

Q1. This *Cycnoches Topaz Grande* is my pride and joy, but it obviously thinks it's dying as do I. One cane rotted off but the others seem to be quite firm. Do I just leave it do its own thing or do I somehow

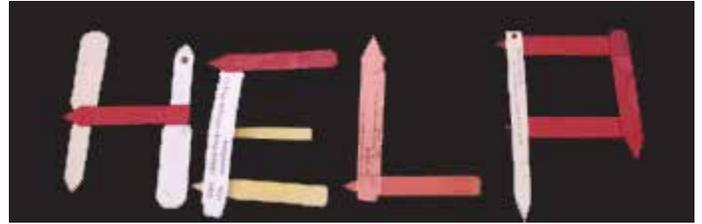
remove the keikis?

A1. If your plants have time left in the growing cycle, I would cut the bulbs about half way between the nodes that carry the keikis and pot them up in small (2 to 3 inch) pots in good sphagnum moss and let them grow til dormancy hits, the nutrients in the pseudobulb will continue to nourish the keikis until their roots grow into the moss.



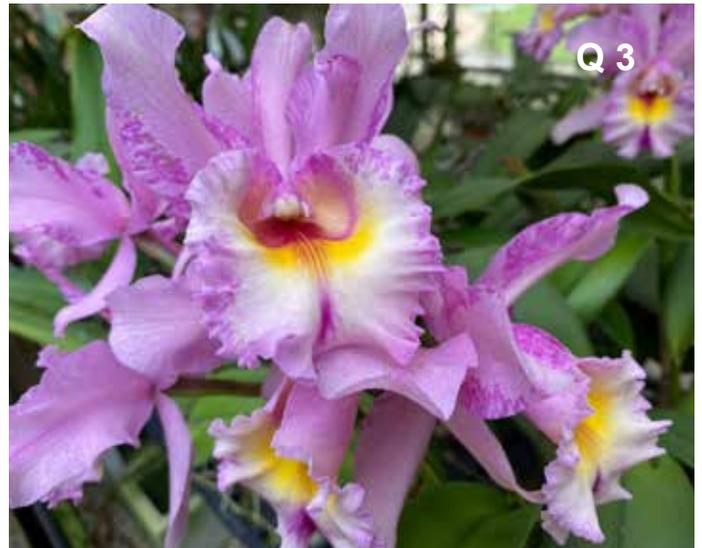
Another alternative would be to get a shallow bulb pan with long fibered sphagnum moss and just bury the pseudobulbs half way into the moss so the keiki roots can grow into it. The bulbs will ultimately rot and you can pull them out while the keikis continue to grow. The keikis may continue growing through the winter, or they may go dormant. If most of your other plants have entered dormancy, it may be better to leave the keikis on until next spring.

Q2. There are hard, clear bubble shapes on my phal leaves. It doesn't look like an insect. What could it be?



A2. That's edema, like a water blister. It happens when you water late in the day when the air cools or the skies turn grey, so transpiration slows down and the water needs to be shed from the leaf so it forms these little blisters. It won't harm the plant. Here's a [link](#) to more information.

Q3. Do you think this is virused? Where can I buy some test strips?



A3. That looks like a nasty case of color break caused by *Odontoglossum Ringspot virus (ORSV)*. Sometimes you can join a group that is ordering the test strips from Taiwan, or you can order from [Agdia](#) in groups of 5 to 25. Such a shame!



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Repotting Cattleyas

by Dr. Courtney Hackney

It is hard to think about repotting now when days are short, nights long, and it is very cold; but it is time. Unless you are lucky enough to live near an orchid supply house, it may take a month or so to assemble everything you need to repot your orchids when they are ready. Timing is everything when repotting, so a short primer on when to repot is in order.

Repotting Cattleyas is one of the greatest challenges for hobbyists. Often, newly repotted plants languish and never really grow well after they are repotted leading many to believe that they did not repot properly. For Cattleyas, timing is probably as important as the potting experience of the hobbyist.

Recall that each new growth on Cattleyas produces its own set of roots and repotting damages or destroys a large proportion of these roots. Each new growth will bloom and produce a new growth using the roots attached to each growth. The key is to not damage new roots that will provide the nutrients for growth and flowering.

Unfortunately, different Cattleya species grow roots at different times of the year. William Rogerson's recent article in the Orchid Digest (December 2004) provides an excellent approach to repotting Cattleyas. He divides most species and their hybrids into two categories, the "root before blooming" group and the "root after blooming" group. The general idea is to repot a Cattleya just before it grows new roots. For Cattleyas labiata, trianaei, mossiae, schroederae, and hybrids dominated by one or more of



For 'Roots After Blooming' Cattleyas like this Cattleya gaskelliana, the new lead grows, matures and flowers and only then do new roots emerge, repot immediately after they bloom in spring, summer and fall. In some cases, the roots emerge as the lead develops or the blooms open, repot after the new roots start to emerge even if this disrupts the bloom cycle.

these fall-winter blooming species, repot when they begin to produce new growths in spring and summer. If you have only a few Cattleyas, note on the tag when they begin to grow new roots. If the new roots emerge while the new pseudobulb is growing then it belongs in the "root before blooming group". If the roots emerge from the new growth while it is in bloom or just after blooming then it belongs in the second group. Some species in the "root after blooming group" are Cattleyas warscewiczii, lueddemanniana, warneri, dowiana, aurea, and gaskelliana. In general, these are late spring or summer blooming species. Many yellow and summer blooming hybrids will also follow the same rooting pattern. Hybrids are often more forgiving than species, but still do better if potted at the correct time.

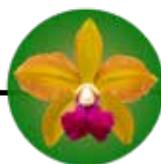
Many Cattleya species and their direct hybrids, e.g. C dowiana and C bicolor are reputed to be hard to grow, largely because of the time of repotting. Cattleya bicolor is usually in bloom when they start to grow new roots and should be repotted. In general, bifoliate species and hybrids (two leaves per growth) are less forgiving than unifoliate (1 leaf per bulb) when it comes to repotting at the wrong time.

Some repotting supplies may be easy to come by, while others must be shipped in. Shipping and packing costs can exceed the cost of materials for some products, such as clay orchid pots or bark. Many hobbyists ban together to ship in quantity or even travel to the supply house. Be sure to call and reserve what you need, as demand often exceeds supply in spring. Don't forget rhizome clips, baskets, hangers, and other miscellaneous supplies that make repotting much easier.

Note: Dr. Courtney Hackney wrote a monthly column of his orchid growing tips for about 20 years; we are reprinting some you might have missed, this one from January 2005.



For 'Roots Before Blooming' Cattleyas like this Cattleya trianaei alba 'Aranka Germanske', roots emerge as a new lead grows and blooming occurs after the new lead and roots are mature; repot when they begin to send up new growths in spring and summer.



CULTIVATION

Bulbophyllums – The False Umbels

by Tom Mirenda, reprinted with permission



From the hot, steamy forests of Thailand through Sumatra, Bulbophyllum medusae is a bizarre plant from section Desmosanthes that stuns all who see it in bloom with its unique strangeness. Grown by Sue Bottom, photo by Terry Bottom.

Comprised of more than 1,500 described species, the genus *Bulbophyllum* is one of the largest in the Orchidaceae, and as you might expect from so large an assemblage, demonstrates unparalleled floristic diversity. One of the few circumtropical orchid genera (*Vanilla* and *Eulophia* are others), the incredibly wide distribution of *Bulbophyllum* implies an ancient common ancestor that might have existed before the continents split and became widely divided by oceans. Found in tropical regions around the world, bulbophyllums have the distinction of being collectible because of their generally compact size, relative ease of culture and consistently striking and bizarre flowers.

Over the years, many taxonomists have tried their hands at classifying this massive genus with varying degrees of success and, more importantly, general acceptance. Some have chosen to separate certain internal groups into other genera. I certainly do not intend to take a stand on this, but as an enthusiast of bulbophyllums, there are certain groups within the genus that stand out and are exciting subjects for cultivation. We've already covered the fascinating groups

Hoplochilus (*Codonosiphon*) and *Hyalosema* in this column. This month, we delve into the wildly exotic sections *Cirrhopetalum*, *Cirrhopetaloides* and *Desmosanthes*.

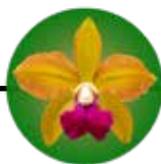
When I first started with orchids, cirrhopetalums were considered a separate genus and seemed sufficiently distinct and identifiable to me. But the relationships in this group are complex and not easily understood. The bulbophyllums are all closely related and it has been determined, for now at least, that their relationships are best understood by placing them in sections within the genus rather than subdivided into many genera. The plants focused on in this article are the ones that appear to carry their flowers in umbels. Umbels are a characteristic type of inflorescence seen often in lilies and amaryllids, where the blooming stem holds several flowers at a time on equal pedicels. Although this appears to be the case in our cirrhopetaloid bulbophyllums, these inflorescences are considered to be false umbels because of their radial arrangement on the stem; they often appear like a daisy or half a daisy in appearance.

With multiple flowers arranged in such an orderly fashion on each inflorescence, most people assume that these false umbels are just one flower. But on close examination, incredible detail is discernible. These flowers usually have an erect or hooded dorsal sepal and long, ribbony lateral sepals that are conjoined for most of their length; comparatively small, but often highly ornate filamentous petals and, like most other bulbophyllums, a hinged mobile lip that moves with the slightest breeze. These rocking lips are important in the pollination of bulbophyllums as their motion aids in adhering pollen to the usually small insects (often flies) they utilize as pollinators. Often mimicking unpleasant smells and displaying tiny lures in their flowers to attract these flies, bulbophyllums are among many orchids that are masters of deception.

Most species are intermediate to warm-growing plants - 75 to 90 F days and 58 to 65 F nights are ideal but are usually pretty adaptable and tolerant. They do best in a basket, but I suggest using a deep basket rather than a raft of a mount because plants do best when they are kept moist and have a good root run. Plants are mostly epiphytic and most need bright shade rather than sun. I use a mixture of medium bark, sponge rock, charcoal and tree-fern fiber mixed with 1/3 New Zealand sphagnum moss to keep the mix open and reasonably moist at all times. Although some growers report success mounting these species, such specimens will require excessive watering to maintain.

Among my favorites are *Bulbophyllum mastersianum* from Borneo which, with its broad sepals, puts on quite a show. There are many different color forms, ranging from yellows to red and chestnut. A lovely diminutive species

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Bulbophyllum pecten-veneris (formerly *Bulbophyllum tingabarinum*) hails from Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam. Its brilliant red flowers dwarf its pseudobulbs and foliage, making for a showy miniature. Other easy growers that are often available are *Bulbophyllum makoyanum* and *Bulbophyllum flabellum-veneris*, both referred to as daisy orchids.

Plants in cultivation are often mislabeled further confusing the situation. The real *Bulb. makoyanum* is distinctive, with long, pointed sepals and flowers arranged into an almost perfect circle. Those plants in cultivation labeled *Bulb. makoyanum* with flowers that look like the petals of a daisy are actually *Bulb. flabellum-veneris*. If this weren't bad enough, most plants of the hybrid *Bulbophyllum* Daisy Chain (*makoyanum* x *cumingii*) in cultivation today are actually *Bulb. flabellum-veneris*.

Among this group, the showiest of all are *Bulbophyllum rothschildianum* from Yunnan, India and Assam, with its enormous inflorescences bearing superbly exotic blooms, and my all-time favorite, *Bulbophyllum longissimum* of Southeast Asia, with its 1 foot long pendent creamy



Named for its dark foliage, *Bulbophyllum purpurascens* has delicate pale blossoms in a unique fleur de lis type pattern. Grown and photographed by Suzanne Susko.



Unavailable for many years, *Bulbophyllum longissimum* was once my "holy grail" of orchids, with its remarkable flowers reaching a foot in length. It is now readily available in the trade as seed-propagated plants. Grown and photographed by Leslie Brickell.

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sepals subtly striped maroon. To my eye, it is one of the most unusual and stunning of all orchids. These two extraordinary species are the parents of an extraordinary hybrid, *Bulbophyllum* Elizabeth Ann, which combines colors, size and stance of the inflorescence with incredible hybrid vigor and floriferousness. It is highly recommended for beginners who are looking for something easy, showy and sublimely different.

Perhaps the oddest of all in this unquestionably odd group would be *Bulbophyllum medusae*, named for one of the furies, the one with the head of snakes, who was known to turn anyone who glanced at her into stone. Although the plant is stunning in bloom, you needn't worry about getting

stuck in one position for eternity when you gaze upon its puffs of extraordinary flowers. To me they appear more like fireworks exploding than a head of snakes, but I can see why it was given this descriptive name. *Bulbophyllums* are not for everyone as they are unusual flowers. Some would even call flowers such as those of *Bulb. medusae* hideous. But I've found that as I explore further and further in the crazy and bizarre world of orchids that my concept of what is beautiful has changed remarkably.

Grow and bloom a few *bulbophyllums* and I'll bet you have a similar epiphany regarding what beauty is.

This article appeared in the American Orchid Society Orchids magazine in October 2012 (Vol.81:10, pp.588-591).



*A highly recommended and readily available hybrid, *Bulbophyllum* Elizabeth Ann (*rothschildianum* x *longissimum*) makes enormous trusses of spectacular ornamental flowers every year as shown on this beautifully grown specimen. The clone 'Buckleberry' FCC/AOS is shown. Grown and photographed by Steve Hawkins.*



CULTIVATION

Granular Chemicals

by Sue Bottom

There are plenty of pesticides and insecticides on the market that you can use as a spray or a drench on your orchids. These are generally offered as fairly concentrated chemicals with lots of recommendations to prevent personal harm during their use. The potential for inhalation and skin exposure is greatest when spraying orchids, so respirators and protective clothing are often recommended. Those chemicals that are xylem mobile in the plant can be used as a drench, where you pour the mixture through the potting media for absorption through the roots. This has a lesser potential for personal exposure, so you may only have to don gloves and boots to protect yourself.

A great alternative to both of these approaches is a granular chemical that can be spread around the top of the potting media as top dressing. When the plant is watered, the chemical is dissolved and carried down to the roots, absorbed, and transported up into the plant through the xylem. These granular chemicals tend to have a much lower concentration of the active ingredient. You can simply wear gloves as you spread the chemical and be protected from ill effects. Another major benefit is the cost, the granular products tend to be much less expensive than their concentrated counterparts.



Mealybugs on Psychopsis flowers

Here are some granular chemicals you may wish to keep in your arsenal, organized by the type of problem they are designed to fight. (*note: the first number after the trade name is the concentration in weight percent of the active ingredient, and the second number is the formulation: WP-wettable powder, G-granular, SC-suspension concentrate, SG-water soluble granules, SL-soluble concentrate, SP-water soluble powder, WDG-water dispersible granule*).

Pesticides. Scale is a major pest of cattleyas and phals and paphs are mealybug magnets. There are lots of household cures that can suppress but rarely eliminate these pests. Some effective before products containing imidacloprid like the Bayer products and those labelled for Tree and Shrub treatment are available at local nurseries, and the very concentrated products like Merit 75WP (active ingredient imidacloprid) and Safari 20SG (active ingredient dinotefuran) are available at specialty nursery supply stores. There is a granular product containing 0.5% imidacloprid with trade names Merit 0.5G, Hi Yield Grub Free, Imidacloprid 0.5G and Generic Merit among others, sold in 10 and 30 lb bags. I have been using this product for several years on landscape plants as well as orchids. It is very handy to use as a spot treatment on an infected plant and it is very effective at killing scale.

There is only one systemic miticide, Kontos, and the label says not to use it on orchids. The other miticides are all intended to be sprayed on upper and lower leaf surfaces for best control, although some have the advantage of translaminar activity. At present, there is no granular miticide.

There is no granular systemic product for thrips, but systemic control of thrips using drenches is possible using products containing the active ingredients acephate (Orthene) and dinotefuran (Safari). Raymond Cloyd's article on [Control of Thrips with Systemic Insecticides](#) suggests that the more water soluble systemics are more rapidly absorbed by the roots and translocated throughout the plant, including the flower buds. We have found Orthene drenches to be very effective at controlling floral damage to Cattleya flowers. We haven't used Safari, which is about half as water soluble as Orthene. Besides flowers, thrips feed on the foliage of soft leaved orchids like Catasetums whereas they don't do much damage to waxy Cattleya leaves. If leaf feeding is a concern in your growing area, you will have to spray insecticides for control rather than rely on drenches.

Fungicides. There are many granular fungicides on the market, mostly developed for turf grass on golf courses. These often contain the same active ingredients as are found in concentrated products like Heritage, Banner Max II, Insignia, Pageant, Empress Intrinsic, Heritage, and others. Perhaps at some point these products will be labeled for use on ornamentals. For now, there is one product labeled for use on ornamentals (though orchids are not specifically listed, so they presumably were not tested). Fame Granular fungicide contains 0.25% fluoxastrobin, and is reported to be effective for anthracnose, rhizoctonia, sclerotium, fusarium, phytophthora and pythium (as a preventative). Another granular product is 3336DGLite which contains



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2.08% thiophanate methyl, the same active ingredient as is found in Cleary's 3336, Thiomyd and Banrot. It is labelled for use in commercial horticultural applications. It is listed as effective for anthracnose and, when incorporated into the potting media as a preventative, for rhizoctonia and fusarium.

I get anthracnose on my thin leaved orchids like stanhopeas and gongoras, so I wanted to try Heritage to see if it would stop the infections. Heritage is a broad spectrum systemic fungicide effective for leaf spotting fungi like anthracnose and the cercosporoids as well as those that cause the stem, bulb and root rots like rhizoctonia, fusarium and sclerotium. I mistakenly ordered Heritage G instead of Heritage SC, the granular rather than the sprayable product. Once I got over being annoyed at my mistake, I thought what a great way to spot treat those stanhopeas. I cut off the infected leaves, sprayed the oxalis, top dressed with a little cypress mulch and some Heritage G before placing them in their winter home. It also should work well for that pesky cercosporoid infection that ruins the leaves on my dendrobiums as well as the occasional anthracnose on cattleyas.

The granular chemicals are a breeze to apply, you simply top dress the pot and water. When you notice a problem,

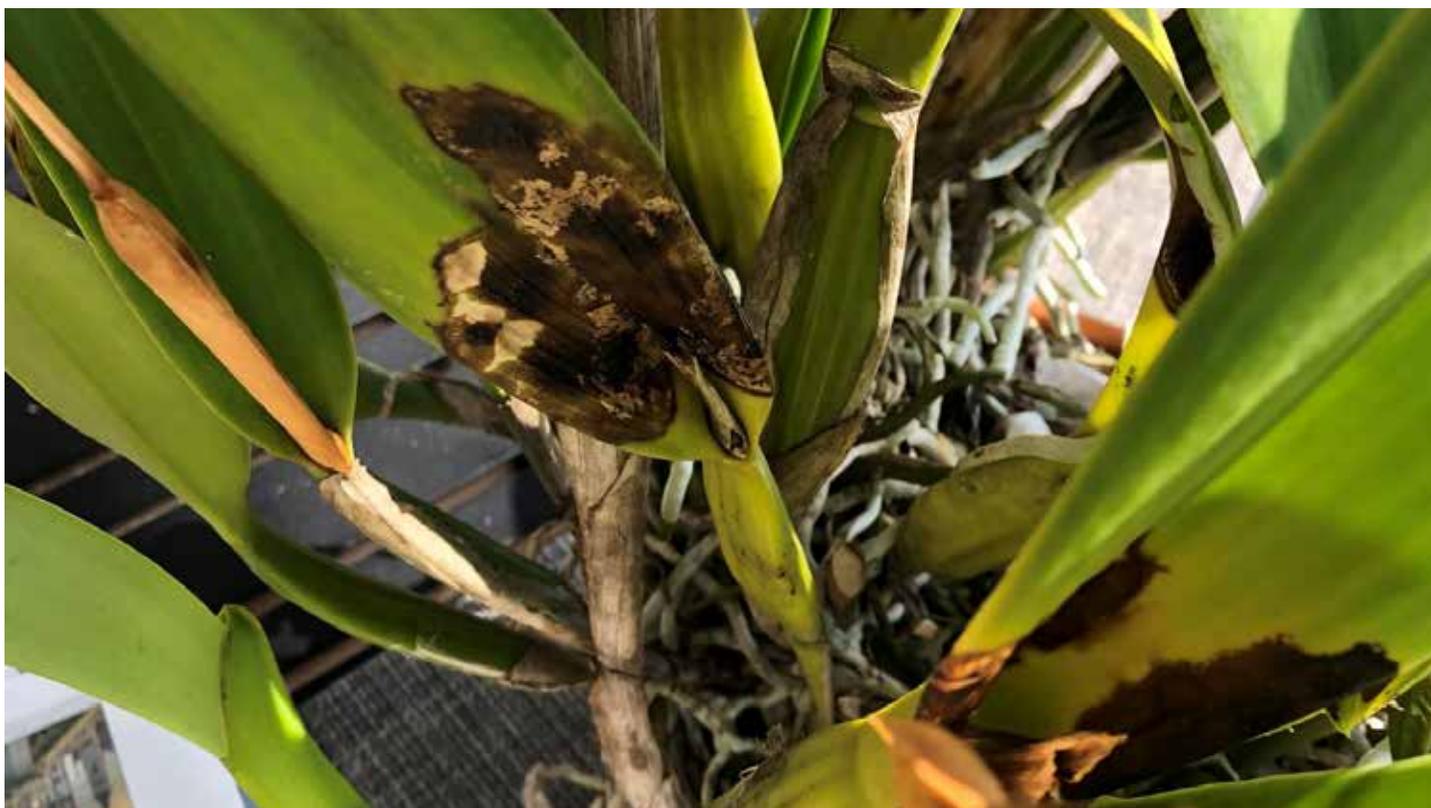


Anthracnose on stanhopea leaf

stop and apply the chemical and then continue whatever you were doing. Easy, no elaborate preparations, no suiting up, just sprinkle and go!

References:

Control of Thrips with Systemic Insecticides, Raymond Cloyd, Greenhouse Grower, June 10, 2013, <https://www.greenhousegrower.com/production/insect-control/control-of-thrips-with-systemic-insecticides>



Anthracnose on Laelia purpurata leaves



SHOW TABLE



Grower Courtney Hackney
Blc. (now Rlc.) Malworth Sunset
'Orchidglade'



Grower Steve Dorsey
Masd. Susy de Bermeo



Grower Brandon Silvester
C. Peckhaviensis



Grower Sheila Nathanson
Den. Rosy Cluster



Grower Brandon Silvester
Ceratostylis [Css.] retisquama



Grower Sue Bottom
Bulb. medusae



Grower Ellen Fay
Epi. magnoliae



SHOW TABLE



Grower Steve Dorsey
Bc. Yellow Bird



Grower Allen Black
Pot. (now Rlc.) Pamela Ann Oliveros 'Mom's Best'
AM/AOS



Grower Sue Bottom
Ren. Kalsom 'Nan-Lon'



Grower Leslie Brickell
Lc. (now C.) (Time Finney x Drumbeat)



Grower Keith Davis
C. walkeriana 'Abandonata'



Grower Suzzane Susko
Gastrochilus [Gchls.] obliquus

Link to all Submissions: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjAmgi4>

