

October 2006



Sarasota

ORCHID SOCIETY, INC.

OrchidView

Presidents Message

October checklist for Orchids.

Cattleya Despite the shortening days and lowering angle of the sun, October can still be one of the hottest months. Water and fertilizer need to be in balance with heat and light. The alert grower will notice, however, that the sheaths are giving the promise of the next six month's bloom.

Check plants for potting needs for the last time this season. Any in dire need should be potted, even some that may be on the cusp, as there is just enough of the growing season left to allow the plants to establish before the days start to get really short. Also when repotting make sure to clean the plants up and be on the lookout for any pests your plants may have picked up during the summer. Treat as necessary.

Dendrobium This is a good season for hybrids of the Dendrobium Phalaenopsis type and Dendrobium canaliculatum types. Both are capable of putting on tremendous shows of low-lasting flowers. Fertilize with low nitrogen formula to promote the best flowers. Dendrobium Phalaenopsis can get tall and top heavy, suggesting an attractive and heavy container would be appropriate for this type.

Paphiopedilum Standard, green leaved Paphiopedilum begin to show their bloom sheaths this month. Late-season heat waves can blast these early sheaths, so be observant about proper cooling and air circulation. Clean each plant and implement pest-control practices. Repotting if necessary is appropriate.

Phalaenopsis The bulk of this season's growth is being ripened this month. Begin to watch watering more carefully, and reduce feeding proportionately with reduced watering needs. An extra dose of phosphorus and potassium, such as a bloom-booster or high acid type fertilizer, is beneficial.

I hope these culture tips help your plants grow better.

SARASOTA ORCHID SOCIETY

Monday October 2, 2006
7:30 PM

Cultural Study Class
6:30 PM
with
Jeff Higel

Guest Speaker
Angel Lara
Orchid Pest and Diseases

Marie Selby
Botanical Gardens
Activities Center
811 South Palm Ave.
Sarasota, Florida

Orchid Sale

Tropiflora and Fender's Flora Fall
Festival sale will be
October 6, 7, and 8

Friday and Saturday
October 6 & 7
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Sunday
October 8
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

3530 Tallevast Rd.
Sarasota, Florida

Orchid of the Month Bulbo. polystictum



The Sarasota Orchid Society Inc. (SOS) meets on the first Monday of each month at Selby Gardens, 800 South Palm Ave., Sarasota, FL. The SOS Inc., an affiliate of the American Orchid Society, is a nonprofit association with the aims of promoting the development, improvement and preservation of orchids through the dissemination of information concerning the culture, hybridization or development of orchids; and generally to extend the knowledge of orchids. Annual dues are \$15—\$20 for family. Deadline for the newsletter is the 15th of the previous month. Contributors to this newsletter give reprint rights of their work to newsletters of other affiliates of the American Orchid Society.

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941-366-4954

Orchid Etcetera
Jeff and Walter
941-921-9138

Plantio La Orquidea
Francisco Miranda
941-504-7737

RF Orchids
Robert Fuchs
305-245-4570

Camp-Lot-a- Noise
Jerry & Karen Sellers

Upcoming Events

September 16-17 Ridge Orchid Show Lakeland Florida

October 7-8 Florida West Coast Orchid Society Show
Saturday the 7th 9 AM—5 PM Sunday the 8th 10 AM 4PM
12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo, Florida

Hurricane Preparation

South Florida is the most hurricane prone place on earth. Situated as it is between the tropical trade winds and the temperate westerlies, either of Florida's coasts can be affected by hurricanes traveling from the east or the west. With so much time, money, and emotion involved in our precious orchids a clear plan for protecting them is essential.

If they are few enough and space is available the obvious solution is to bring them all in. Water the plants thoroughly and allow enough time for them to drip dry before bringing them into the house or garage. Larger collections that cannot be all moved inside present other problems. First, though it may seem counter-intuitive in face of the heavy rains that typically accompany a hurricane, the plants should be watered to the point of saturation. This will make them much heavier and less likely to be blown about or away. Electric power is frequently cut for days following a storm after Andrew (outlying areas were without power for two months) and one may not be able to water the plants for an extended period. Hurricanes are also sometimes "dry" with little rain but filled with wind borne salt spray that can be particularly damaging to plants that are not fully hydrated. Following this saturating watering, if time allows the foliage to dry, the plants can be sprayed with a general fungicide like Thiophanate methyl i.e. Clarey's 3336 (a spreader sticker is especially valuable here) to protect them from the diseases that will be blowing in and taking the plants at their most vulnerable; over wet as well as nicked and gouged by the battering of the wind.

All plants should be placed on the floor of the greenhouse and no plants should be left hanging. Wind speeds increase exponentially with elevation. The closer to the ground the better. If buildings or other large, secure structures provide windbreaks, plants should be placed in as close proximity to these as possible. Concrete floors of patios are to be much preferred to lawns or bare ground which when flooded will bring numerous soil borne pathogens into contact with the plants. If the grower has sufficient heavy objects like cement blocks to use as anchors, the plants can be covered with shade or other cloth but such covering needs to be very well secured or if left flapping may cause more harm than good.

More than this cannot be done to protect the plants. The grower should turn his attention to protecting his growing facilities. In hurricane winds, shade cloth is a sail and poly ethylene film even worse. Both have sufficient wind resistance to tear even steel framed greenhouses to pieces and throw them to the ground. Both plastic and shade cloth should be removed or furled when the first rains and clouds of the storm make their shade no longer needed. In addition to protecting the shade house structure, this action is vital to preserve the materials themselves. After the storm, sunshine can return with startling rapidity, bringing with it the potential to burn exposed orchid plants. Indeed sunburn is often the most severe damage that results from storms. For this reason plastic and shade cloth should be carefully guarded. Furled tightly in place where it can be quickly re-spread to protect the plants is a good solution for category I or II storms. For more severe storms, the materials should be folded and carefully stored. Nothing will be of more value after the storm than shade. Hurricane Andrew left in its wake not a leaf on a tree or shrub that hung more than a foot off the ground. Bamboo, though stripped of all leaves, was the first plant to renew its foliage to delight the eye and provide welcome relief from the sun baked landscape.

Post storm activity is important also. First be prepared to quickly replace shade either on the structure itself or by jury-rigging shade cloth until the structure can be rebuilt. The plants themselves will have been severely stunned, bruised or nicked by buffeting winds. Often the plants will have been dark and wet for many, many hours. These conditions are the most highly conducive for fungal and bacterial development. While the plants are still wet they can be sprayed with a tertiary ammonia product Physan, Consan, or Greenshield (pool algicide contains the same chemical). This has the advantage of blending with the water on the plants to provide some immediate protection. Once the plants are dry again, they can be sprayed with a broad spectrum fungicide/bactericide. Cupric hydroxide (Kocide, Champion) mixed with Mancozeb (Manzate, Dithane M45) at 1 Tbs. per gallon of each should do a good job. Again a spreader sticker is highly desirable here.

The strategy for all the next few weeks post storm is to keep the plants as dry as possible (most will be moving toward more dormant states in September and October in any case). Close monitoring for disease development and excising damaged tissue as disease develops are essential. This should be done with a clean instrument that is disinfected between cuts, preferably with a supersaturated solution of tri-sodium phosphate or by flaming the cutting edge. Much wet weather can still be forth coming after a hurricane and disease control and prevention will be a long term task post storm.

GO FOR THE GOLD

SAVE THIS DATE !!

Our 50th Annual Orchid Show will be held on January 6th and 7th at the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium. Co-chairmen are Monroe Kokin & Jo Davis. Set up will be on January 5th Starting at 9:00 AM

We need volunteers for various committees. Brisa Cabara has a sign up sheet. Please call her at 925-4349. We need all members to help.

A sponsor/donor committee has been established. Sam Boyd & Al Langdon are the co-chairs for this committee. If your company would like to be a sponsor or if you would like details, please contact Sam at 923-7610 or Al at 907-4161.

The society has been working to update our membership list and email list.

Anyone with a new email address, phone number or address change please notify Jim Smith at jimithii@tampabay.rr.com or call at (941) 907-0746

The 3rd Annual Labor Day Picnic

There were 45 members and guests present at our annual Labor Day event. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed the wonderful food.

I would like to thank all who helped make this such a great success.

Monroe



Another Verona Original



Minutes of the August 7, 2006 Meeting of the Sarasota Orchid Society, Inc.

President Monroe Kokin called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm

Carolyn Langdon read the minutes of the July meeting which were approved and seconded.

Jim Smith, our treasurer, was not in attendance.

Monroe reminded us to take advantage of the library in the back room which is open to our membership. These books are most helpful to our new members as well as our existing members. Please see Jim Farney, if you wish to borrow any books.

The new date for our 50th Annual Orchid Show is the first weekend in January, Saturday and Sunday, January 6th and 7th, 10 am to 5 pm. Judging will take place on the 5th. Set-up, chaired by Sam and Norm, will be on Thursday, January 4th between 3 and 5 pm, with the remaining set-up on Friday, January 5th between 7 and 9 am. The growers and societies will start putting in their displays beginning at 9 am and must be completed by 4 pm on Friday afternoon. Jo Davis and her registration committee will complete their tasks and judging will take place at 6 pm. Volunteers are needed to be clerks. We have invited the judges to a dinner that our hospitality committee will put together. Tear down will take place no earlier than 5 pm on Sunday and we must have it entirely cleaned up before we depart the auditorium on Sunday evening. Another exhibitor will be moving in on Monday morning.

Sam Boyd and Al Langdon have volunteered to head a Corporate Sponsor Committee to raise funds to offset some of the expenses we currently incur putting on our show. Sam and Al will need help from all the members to make this outreach a success.

Briza is asking for volunteers to fill in her Show Committee Book. Many jobs are available and we do need volunteers to make our Golden Jubilee Show in January a success!

Monroe reminded us to visit our website, www.sarasotaorchidsociety.org. A few interesting statistics were received by Sam Boyd from Alan Marlor, our webmaster who updates it weekly. In 2005, our website experienced 3,030 hits. From January through July of this year, our website experienced 7,251 hits.

Linda Kokin reported that she and Sally Werlinich hope to have a newsletter in the mail prior to the August meeting. In the meantime, Linda called each of the members to remind them of the August meeting. At the same time, Linda found it helpful in updating the membership listing with corrected addresses, phone numbers and email addresses.

The hospitality committee is to be thanked for all the wonderful food and goodies.

Remember our Labor Day picnic on September 4th with Baby Back Ribs and Chicken. Jo Davis has volunteered to chair the hospitality committee for this picnic.

Break time with Refreshments

The featured presentation was a Round Table discussion with Laurie Stoner, Jo Davis, Monroe Kokin, Marty Cooper and Al Langdon relating their methods of growing orchids. A question and answer period followed their presentations.

The show table had some wonderful plants. Marty Cooper and Monroe Kokin discussed the plant table. The Members' Choice was *Bulbo. Daisy Chain (Bulbo. makoyanu x Bulbo. amesianum.)* The Species Choice was *Den. bracteosum x sibling.*

Monroe thanked all for attending and adjourned after the raffle.

Respectfully submitted,

**Carolyn Langdon
Secretary**



ORCHID SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. Box 19895
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SPECIES OF THE MONTH

Pleurathallis uniflora
Owner Monroe Kokin

MEMBERS CHOICE

Brassavola nodosa
Owner Karen Bologna

