



Conservation Through Knowledge

Issue 65 Volume 9

December 2017

Nutmeg State Orchid Society Inc.

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Affiliated with the American Orchid Society



501 (c) (3) non for profit organization

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018



COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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NUTMEG STATE ORCHID SOCIETY MENTOR LIST 2013

Ron Burch	Cypripediums Native orchids	860-567-0431	ronjonb@aol.com	Call/e-mail anytime
Walter Doehr	Cattleya, Phals., Growing under lights	203-634-7712	johndeered1923@gmail.com	Call/e-mail anytime
Joe Hertz	Under lights and Windowsill growing All species	860-233-5505	jhertz1015@aol.com	Call/e-mail anytime
Jeanne McDermott	Windowsill growing: Phals, Paphs, Brassia, Oncidium, Cymbidium, Miltoniopsis & mixed genera			
Sandy Myhalik	Phalaenopsis	860-677-0504	myhalik@comcast.net	
Jay Presbie	Growing under lights All species	860-651-3155	jpresbie@gmailmail.com	Call/e-mail anytime
John Sziklas	Paphiopedilums Phragmepediums Cattleyas	860-658-2908		Call anytime

NSOS now has a mentor list and would like to add more folks going forward. We are looking for people that are willing to answer questions on something that you are familiar with pertaining to orchids. You do not have to be an expert, just able to help someone who has a question in your area of knowledge. We all have areas that we feel comfortable in that would be of great assistance to someone just starting out. If you wish to be added to our NSOS Mentor List, please send me a note: johndeered1923@gmail.com

BUSINESS MEETING

President Sandy Myhalik called her last business meeting to order at 8:00 PM (as members were enjoying a second round of holiday desserts).

Upcoming orchid shows: Volunteers are needed to set up and take down the NSOS displays for shows hosted by CAIOS (Jan 27-28 in Hyannis, MA) and NHOS (Feb 9-11 in Nashua, NH). Anyone willing to help should contact Away Show Chair Diane Dean. She would like to have at least one additional volunteer to help set up and two volunteers to take down each show. If needed, NSOS will reimburse for 1 night lodging to make it easier for members to travel to these more distant show venues during the winter.

Year-End Financial Report: A printed copy of the 2017 financial report was available for review at the meeting. Questions about NSOS finances should be directed to our Treasurer (Tom Mierzejewski).

Elections: Elections were held for a new President to serve a 2-year term beginning on January 1, 2018. A motion from the floor to nominate Walter Doehr (who had indicated his willingness to serve) was approved. Walter accepted the nomination and was elected by unanimous voice vote.

Change to Bylaws: Members were notified about a proposal to change our bylaws to make February 1st the deadline for memberships to lapse if not renewed. The proposed change was approved by voice vote. The membership year ends on December 31, and any members who have not renewed by February 1st of the following year will be removed from our roster. Dues payments may either be sent to NSOS, P.O. Box 131, Farmington, CT 06034 or to Tom Mierzejewski at 26 Basswood Road, Farmington, CT 06032.

Member news: Sandy learned by email from member Darcie Peterson that one of our long time members, Dee Dunn, recently passed away. Dee is survived by her husband Sam Griswold of Simsbury and two sons. When available, information about any memorial services will be shared with our membership. The Board will send Dee's family a fruit basket with condolences on behalf of the Society.

The business meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM, and was followed by raffle drawing.

TREASURER'S REPORT

NSOS financial data is available to members upon request. Send your inquiries to our Treasurer, Tom Mierzejewski: tommajeski@comcast.net

Important!! Dues are due prior to February 1, 2018 to prevent being dropped from the membership rolls.. Single \$25 .. Family \$35

Advertising in our NSOS Newsletter

Advertising is now open to members and businesses. The following rates apply: \$10/month business card size ad. ¼ page \$25, ½ page \$50. Members would get \$5 & \$10 off these rates respectively. A four line word ad for members would be \$2. Contact Walter Doehr if interested and send your check to Tom Mierzejewski, our Treasurer.

2018 Schedule of Meetings & Events

Jan. 6, 2018 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French dr, Boylston MA

Jan. 7, 2018 – Meeting – Topic - Ginna Plude, will speak at our meeting on Phragmepedium pearcei – “It’s not easy being green” – followed by a round table discussion - Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 1 pm – 4 pm

Jan. 12 - 14, 2018 North Jersey Orchid Society Show and Sale at the Douglass Student Center at Rutgers University, 100 George St., New Brunswick, NJ

Jan. 20, 2018 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Stamford - Bartlett Arboretum & Garden, Silver Education Center - 151 Brookdale Rd, Stamford, Ct.

Jan. 27 – 28, 2018 –Cape & Island Orchid Society Show – The Resort & Conference Center, 35 Scudder Ave., Hyannis, MA

Fed. 3, 2018 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French dr, Boylston MA

Feb. 4, 2018 – Meeting – Topic TBD - Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 1 pm – 4 pm

Feb.9 - 11, 2018 –New Hampshire Orchid Society Show – Courtyard by Marriott, 2200 Southwood Dr., Nashua, NH

February 8 - 11, 2018 Deep Cut Orchid Society Show & Sale at the Dearborn Market, 2170 Route 35 South, Holmdel, NJ

Feb. 17, 2018 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Stamford - Bartlett Arboretum & Garden, Silver Education Center - 151 Brookdale Rd, Stamford, Ct.

Mar. 3, 2018 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French dr, Boylston MA

Mar. 4, 2018 – Meeting – Topic TBD - Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 1 pm – 4 pm

Mar. 17 – 18, 2018 – Nutmeg State Orchid Society “ Come See our Bloomers” show & Sale, West Hartford Meeting & Conference Center, 50 West Main St., West Hartford, CT

Mar. 17, 2018 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Stamford - Bartlett Arboretum & Garden, Silver Education Center - 151 Brookdale Rd, Stamford, Ct.

March 23 - 25, 2018 - Genesee Region Orchid Society's 44th Annual Orchid Show at the Rochester Museum & Science Center, Eisenhart Auditorium, 657 East Avenue, Rochester, NY

Apr.7, 2018 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French dr, Boylston MA

Apr. 8, 2018 – Meeting – Topic TBD - Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 1 pm – 4 pm

Apr. 21, 2018 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Stamford - Bartlett Arboretum & Garden, Silver Education Center - 151 Brookdale Rd, Stamford, Ct.

May 2, 2018 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French dr, Boylston MA

May 6, 2018 – Meeting – Topic TBD - Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 1 pm – 4 pm

May 19, 2018 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Stamford - Bartlett Arboretum & Garden, Silver Education Center - 151 Brookdale Rd, Stamford, Ct.

Jun.7 2018 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French dr, Boylston MA

Jun. 16, 2018 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Stamford - Bartlett Arboretum & Garden, Silver Education Center - 151 Brookdale Rd, Stamford, Ct.

Meetings are held at the Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 1 pm – 4 pm the First Sunday of each month unless otherwise posted above or on our website



LC. BIGTIME #15

Robert Hirnyk Memorial Library

	TITLE	AUTHOR
1	Book of Orchids	Withner, Dr. Carl
2	Botanical Orchids and How to Grow Them	Kramer, Jack
3	Complete Guide to Maine's Orchids	Kenan, Philip E.
4	Exotic Orchids -- Successful Indoor Gardening	Rittershausen, Wilma
5	Expanding Your Orchid Collection	Rentoul, J. N.
6	Field Guide to the Orchids of Britain and Europe	Williams, John & Andrew
7	Flowers of the Amazon Forest	Mee, Margaret
8	Forgotten Orchids of Alexandra Brun	Cribb, Philip
9	International Book of Orchids	Hunt, P. Francis
10	Miniature Orchids	McQueen, Jim and Barbara
11	Orchid Genera Illustrated	Sheehan, Tom and Marion
12	Orchids	Black, Peter McKenzie
13	Orchids	Menzies, David
14	Orchids -- A Guide to Cultivation	Cribb, Dr. Philip & Bales, Chris
15	Orchids -- Natural History & Classification	Dressler, Robert L.
16	Orchids -- Wonders of Nature	Kijima, Takashi
17	Orchids at Kew	Stewart, Joyce
18	Orchids from Seed	Thompson, P.A.
19	Orchids of Africa	Stewart, Joyce & Hennessey, Esme F.
20	Orchids of Asia	Eng Soon, Teoh
21	Slipper Orchids	Hennessey, Esme F. & Hedge Tessa A.
22	Southern African Epiphytic Orchids	Ball, John S.
23	The Specialist Orchid Grower	Rentoul, J. N.
24	Wild Orchids of Britain and Europe	Davies, Paul and Jenne
25	Orchid Pests and Diseases Guide	American orchid Society
26	Growing Orchids Guide	American orchid Society
27	Understanding Orchids	Cullina, William
28	Orchids Made Easy	Levesque, Ryan & Laura
29	A Guide to Orchids of the World	Hodgson Paine Anderson
30	An Introduction to the Orchids of Mexico	Wiard, LeonA.
31	1990 Awards Annual A.O.S.	American Orchid Society
32	Orchids For Everyone, A Practical Guide	Williams, Dumbelton, Bilton, et al
33	Orchids in Australia	Kerr, Ronald
34	Dendrobium Orchids of Australia	Upton, Walter T.
35	The Orchid	Hunt, Kijima
36	Orchids of Vanuatu	Lewis, Cribb
37	The Cattleyas and Their Relatives Volume II. The Laelias	Withner, Carl L.
38	The Cattleyas and Their Relatives Volume I. The Cattleyas	Withner, Carl L.
39	Exotic Orchids in Australia	Jones, David L.
40	Exotic Orchids in Australia (paperback)	Jones, David L.
41	Orchids of South Australia	Bates, Weber
42	Expanding Your Orchid Collection	Rentoul, J.N.

43	Dendrobiums an introduction to the species in cultivation	Schelppe, Stewart
44	Orchid Growing in the Tropics	OS of SE Asia (Singapore)
45	Beautiful Thai Orchid Species	Kamemoto, Sagarik
46	Cultivation of Autralian Native Orchids	Richards, Wootton, Datodi
47	Growing Orchids The Australasian Families	Rentoul, J. N.
48	Growing Orchids The Cattleyas and other Epiphytes	Rentoul, J. N.
49	Miniature Orchids	McQueen, Jim and Barbara
50	Growing Orchids The Hybrid Story	Rentoul, J. N.
52	Growing Orchids The Specialist Orchid Grower	Rentoul, J. N.
53	The Astonishing Stanhopeas:the upsidedown orhids	Greer, Barney
54	Native Orchids of Taiwan (English and Tai)	Su, Horgg-Jye Ph.D.
55	Japanese Indigenous Orchids in Color(Non English)	Hashimoto/Kanda
56	Exotic Orchids in Color (Non English)	Hashimoto/Kimura
57	Tropical Orchids of Southeast Asia	Banks, David P.
58	A Cultural Manual For Angraecoid Orchid Growers	Hillerman, Fred
59	Notes from the Royal Botaic Garden Edinburgh	Reeve, Woods
60	A Revision of Dendrobiu Section Oxyglossum	
61	Vandas and Ascocendas and Their Combinations with Other Genera	Grove, David L.
62	Native Orchids of Peninsula Malaysia	Teo, Chris K.H.
63	Genus Phalaenopsis (Orchid Digest, V.1)	Sweet, Herman R., PHD
64	Miniature Orchids	Northern, RebeLavarack,
65	Dendrobium and Its Relatives	Harris, Stockercca Tyson
66	Vandas: Their Botany, History, and Culture	Motes, Martin R.
67	Sarcochilus Orchids of Australia	Upton, Walter T.
68	Indian Orchids: Guide to Identifiation & Culture V. II	Pradhan, Udai C.
69	Orchids of India	Rao,A.S.
70	Orchidaceae: Genus—Coelogyne, Botanical Survey of India	Das, Jain
71	Quality Stream of Cattleya 1980's (Jap and Eng)	Jusekisha
72	Asian—with pictures)	
73	Masdevallias:Gems of the Orchid World	Gerritsen & Parsons
	AOS Magazines (dir and suppl)	December 2009 – Current issues
74	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	December
73	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	January
76	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	February
77	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	March
78	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	April
79	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	May
80	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	June
81	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	July
82	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	August
83	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	September
84	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	October

84a	AOS "Orchid" Supplement	October
85	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	November
86	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	December
87	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	January
88	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	February
89	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	March
90	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	April
91	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	May
92	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	June
93	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	July
94	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	August
95	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	September
96	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	October
97	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	November
98	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	December
99	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	January
100	AOS "Orchid" Magazine	February

Monthly Checklist for January and February



Cattleya trianae 'Mary Fennel' HCC/AOS is a good example of this winter-blooming species.

Cattleya

Watering and fertilizing will be at a minimum, as will potting. Be on the lookout for senescing sheaths on your winter-into-spring bloomers. Careful removal of the dying sheaths will still allow buds to develop without the danger of condensation-induced rot. Low light will lead to weak spikes, so, and as noted above, staking is critical. If you have a chance to get out to nurseries, there may still be a chance to acquire good plants in sheath for spring bloom. Getting them now not only ensures that you'll have them, but allows them to acclimate to your conditions

and bloom at their best.

Cymbidium

We are well into the flowering season now. Outdoor growers should be cautious of freezing temperatures. Damage starts to occur below 30 F. Be diligent about tying the inflorescences for best arrangement of the flowers. Also watch closely for slugs and snails. If weather is quite wet, protect the plants from the rain and this will help to reduce the risk of botrytis spotting.

Lycaste

The most glorious of all orchids, Lycaste, will be moving toward their flowering season. Make sure the palm-like leaves do not interfere with the emerging inflorescences. Tying them loosely together often is helpful. Some growers cut the leaves off at the pseudobulb, but this removes part of the attractiveness of this elegant orchid. Resist picking up the plant to inspect those beautiful buds and then setting it down in all different directions as the flower buds will be forced to re-orient themselves to the light source each time and will not open as nicely as they should. Keep plants a little drier during the shorter days.

Odontoglossums

Odontoglossums and their intergeneric hybrids offer a great splash of color now. Though once thought of as being difficult to grow and requiring cool temperatures due to the emphasis on odontoglossum breeding, the new intergeneric hybrids made using Oncidium and Brassia, for example, are just the opposite. These plants are quite content in more intermediate conditions. New growths generally emerge in the spring, later forming beautiful plump pseudobulbs. Look for the flower spikes to emerge from the inner sheath of the pseudobulb. If your plant's pseudobulbs are shriveled, then the plants have been kept too dry or too wet. Inspect the roots to determine which condition prevailed. If the lead pseudobulb is large, plump and green (and back bulbs are shriveled) but no flower spike is evident, the plants may have been kept too dry.

Paphiopedilum

The standard Paphiopedilum insigne-derived hybrids, which are called "bull dogs" and "toads," are at their peak. Unlike most other orchids, they can even be potted while in bud. There really is no wrong time to pot a paphiopedilum, and no other orchid responds so favorably to fresh mix and a cleanup. Keep an eye on watering until roots begin to grow.



In the fall Phalaenopsis should start initiating flower spikes. Inflorescences should be well developed by mid-January.

Phalaenopsis

Now is the peak of spike development, with the first plants in full flower. Staking and plant preparation is a must for those all-important spring shows. Correct staking now will give a better display and also make it much easier to transport to your society meetings and shows. Care with watering is vital to avoid mechanical damage to the flowers, as well as rot-related problems. Keep spent blooms cleaned up to avoid botrytis inoculation. Do not repot this month. Now you'll be seeing lots of phalaenopsis at orchid shows and sales.

Zygopetalum

For the most part, the flowering season will have ended for this group, providing the grower a chance to do some repotting. The plants will then have a chance to become well established before the hotter months of summer arrive. Most growers use bark mixes, but some exceptional results have been seen lately using rock-wool blends. You may want to try this mix, but do not change your whole collection over to this new media until you are sure it is right for you. First, experiment with a few plants to see how they respond.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.

The Importance of Humidity and Air Movement in Successful Orchid Culture



The simple secret to good orchid growing is achieving a balance between the six or so factors; light levels, temperature, humidity and air movement, watering, potting and potting media, and nutrient supply, as they relate to your plants. This isn't really difficult, but it does require knowledge, understanding and careful observation. Humidity and air movement are best handled together because they are intimately linked in both positive and negative ways. First let's look at each factor individually and then we'll take a look at their relationship to one another.

Humidity

Virtually all orchids do best when humidity ranges from 40% to 70%. Even those that are adapted to growing under rather desert like conditions such as *Zelenkoa (Oncidium) onusta* are exposed to periods when the humidity is in this range. In this particular example, the species flourishes in coastal deserts where breezes from the pacific bring nightly dews and resultant relatively high humidity even though it may not rain for long periods.

Investing in an inexpensive humidity gauge is a necessity for all but the smallest collection if you want to grow orchids well. In virtually all parts of the United States outside of Hawaii and Puerto Rica, at some part of the year, it will be necessary to add supplemental humidity to the growing area. In some parts of the country such as the South and Southeast, humidity during the summer months will be adequate to even excessive while winter humidity levels may be too low, especially following strong cold fronts. In the Pacific Northwest, the situation may well be reversed with humid, cool winters and relatively low humidity during the warmer summer months. If you grow your plants in areas where supplemental heating is a requirement such heat sources dry out the air making humidity measurements critical. Having a simple humidity gauge takes the guesswork out of the growing area. Also keep in mind that humidity is usually highest at night and lowest during the afternoon peak of sunlight and warmth.

There are a number of ways to increase humidity in your growing area. If you only have a couple of plants, addition of some ferns or other houseplants to your growing area may be sufficient. These plants do a reasonable job of adding humidity to the air around them. For small collections grown under lights or windowsills, humidity trays may be sufficient. These trays are nothing

more than a water-holding tray filled with small gravel (aquarium gravel works well). The gravel-filled trays are filled with water to a level just below the surface. To prevent plants sitting on constantly wet gravel the plants are placed on small saucers or pieces of plastic or metal grid placed on top of the trays. The next step up in the humidity game would be an ultrasonic humidifier or one of those fog-generating ultrasonic devices you see sold for terrariums. If you are fortunate enough to have a greenhouse or grow your plants outside, you might want to invest in a set of misting nozzles connected to a timer or humidstat but just simply wetting down the growing space during the mid to late afternoon may be sufficient.

Air Movement

Orchids like air movement. Indoors, an overhead paddle fan set on the slowest speed or a small oscillating fan set to face AWAY from your plants may provide adequate air movement. Air movement at night is just as important as air movement during the daytime so fans should run continuously. One of the mistakes that new growers make, especially those with new greenhouses, is to put their fans on a timer and shut them off at night! Don't forget that what you are trying to simulate is a buoyant atmosphere and close, humid nights are anything but buoyant. If you don't believe that, try walking on the beach in August in Miami without a breeze.

What is adequate air movement? The answer depends on humidity to a certain extent (see below), however in general enough to cause GENTLE movement of thin foliage is about right. A hurricane is a hurricane - not air movement. If the leaves of your cattleyas are moving you might have too much air movement depending on humidity levels.

How are the two factors related?

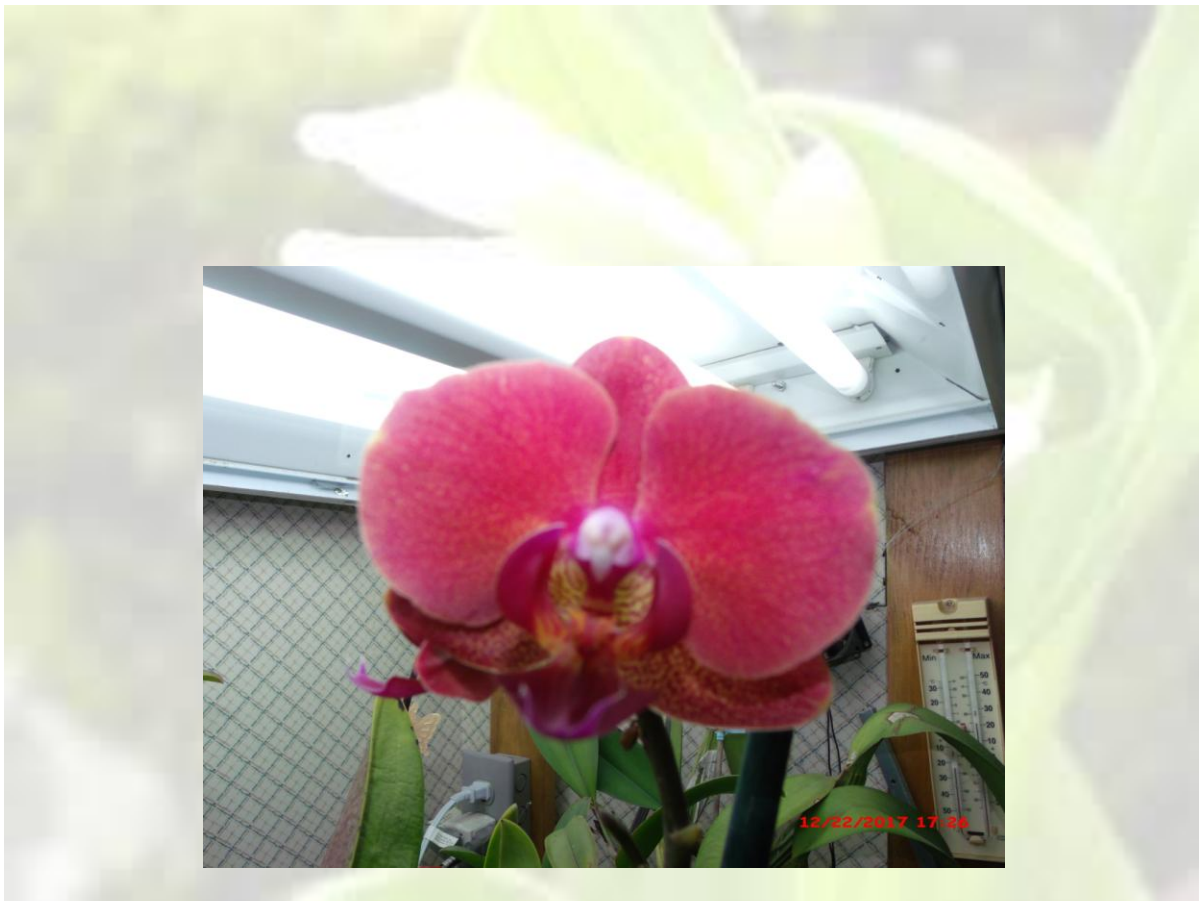
Simply put, the higher your humidity, the higher can and should be your air movement. Air movement is beneficial to your orchids but, under certain circumstances it can be detrimental as well. If you have adequate humidity, air circulation helps to carry stale air away from your plants and replace it with fresh air. This is especially important on hot humid nights. High humidity coupled with minimal air movement is a terrific recipe for the growth of fungus or physiological problems created by the buildup of moisture within the leaf tissues.


Moving air keeps leaf temperature down. Some orchids close the pores that allow transpiration of air and water from their leaves during the day. The leaves of these plants can rapidly become overheated and damaged without adequate air movement to cool them. Air movement avoids the stratification of cool moist air below the growing area and warm dry air above, where the plants are and "dead spots" are minimized and, equally important, damp stagnant areas - breeding place for disease - are eliminated.

However, where natural humidity is low rapid air movement can be destructive by draining away humidity in the growing area, drying out the plants and retarding growth. Under these situations the roots of the plants simply cannot take up enough moisture to balance that lost through the foliage resulting in shriveling of the leaves and growths and, in the worst cases death of the plant.

When balance of humidity and air movement is achieved, coupled with adequate water at the roots, your orchid plants will thrive and their physical appearance will clearly be healthy. That

look is hard to explain but it's one of those things that once you've seen it you will recognize it. Many orchids have growth cycles that involve the formation of pseudobulbs that are full and smooth in their early stages followed by the formation of features like angular edges or furrows at maturity but outright wrinkling isn't normal. Even the pseudobulbs of *Dendrobium sulcatum* that are curious, flattened canes that look like they've been pressed are still smooth and firm when these factors are balanced. Many orchids have thick, fleshy leaves but their surfaces should be smooth and their texture should be firm. Leaves that appear to be wrinkled or crumpled aren't normal. Lastly, the roots of plants grown in an environment with balanced humidity and air movement will be plump and their tips will remain green and active throughout the growing season.





**New Hampshire Orchid Society
27th Annual Show and Sale**

"A Flurry of Orchids"

February 9 - 11, 2018



Orchids as Art
Cape and Island Orchid Society

29th Annual Show

January 27 & 28, 2018
Saturday & Sunday
9am-5pm

Admission is \$10

For more information,
call toll free: 877-250-1711

<http://www.caos.org>

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

