



Conservation Through Knowledge

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Nutmeg State Orchid Society Inc.

Officers:

President: Sandy Myhalik

myhalik@comcast.net

Vice President: Ginna Plude

gcplude@aol.com

Treasurer : Nicole Coutant

nicolecoutant@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Walter Doehr

Johndeered1923@gmail.com

Directors: Rick Brown

rpbrownjr@hotmail.com

Steve Calderon

myhalik@comcast.com

Lydia Pan

markandlydia5357@icloud.com

Secretary: Walter Doehr

Johndeered1923@gmail.com

AOS Representative: Ginna Plude

gcplude@aol.com

Membership:

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society



501 (c) (3) non for profit organization

Hi Everyone,

It's showtime!!! It's time to give your plants bloom booster and get them in shape for the upcoming orchid shows. The first show of the season is the Cape and Islands Show (CAIOS) in Mass. Jan. 27-29. Ginna Plude and Diane Dean will be setting up for us and Lydia Pan and Alan Stauch will be taking down on Sunday. If anyone would like to help them just give them a call. I'm sure they would be most grateful for the help. I hope more people will get the opportunity to go to the show. The plants are gorgeous and there are many vendors at every show selling more beautiful plants. Also, it's an opportunity to talk to the pros and ask your growing questions as well as time to meet the judges. If you have never clerked (helped the judges) you should definitely do it. It's not difficult and you learn a lot by doing it. The judges are very instructive.

Our second show is the New Hampshire Orchid Show in Nashua, N. H. It's Feb. 10-12. The guest speaker at the New Hampshire Show is Thomas Mirenda. For those of you who don't know he is the orchid collection specialist at the Smithsonian Institution and an AOS accredited judge. He has written many articles on orchids and is a fountain of orchid knowledge. You really shouldn't miss his presentation!

Next comes the Amherst Show Feb. 24-26. If you've never been to an orchid show this is the one to do because it's so close to us. It's only one hour from here door to door. And it always has lovely displays. So try your best to go to this show.

And, of course, last but not least is our very own show March 17-19. Please put it on your calendar and plan to volunteer. We need everyone to be involved for it to be a success. I will have volunteer sign up sheets at the next meeting Thurs Feb 9th. The show is at the West Hartford Meeting & Conference Center, 50 South Main St., West Hartford, Ct. The vendors for this year are listed on our website (www.nutmegorchids.org). Start now to groom your plants and stake them and, of course, talk to them!!! Believe it or not in Italy there is a winery that plays classical music out in the fields for their grapes and they swear that the vines produce more because of it!!! LOL!!! Happy growing! Sandy

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Publicity: Alan Stauch - alanstauch02@gmail.com

Library: Richard & Sally Duvall- richard.c.duvall@snet.net
sally.s.duvall@snet.net

Hospitality Chairs: Jessica Marshall - coty710@yahoo.com
Matt Stepanaitis - mstepanaitis@optonline.net

Webmaster: Walter Doehr – johndeered1923@gmail.com

Membership Chairs: - Lori Macgowan - lorimacgowan22@gmail.com

Alan Stauch - alanstauch02@gmail.com

NUTMEG STATE ORCHID SOCIETY MENTOR LIST 2013

Ron Burch	Cypripediums Native orchids	860-567-0431	ronjonb@aol.com	Call/e-mail anytime
Walter Doehr	Cymbidiums, 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, Oncidiums, Cymbidiums, 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

Meeting was called to order at 2:35pm by President Sandy Myhalik, there were 33 members present.

This is show season, we will be attending the following shows; Cape and Islands Orchid Show 1/27/17 – 1/29/17, New Hampshire Orchid Show 2/9/17 – 2/12/17, Amherst Orchid Show 2/23/17 – 2/26/17. Anyone willing to help with setup or take down please contact Sandy.

NSOS show is on 3/17/17 – 3/19/17 at the West Hartford Convention Center, 50 S. Main St. West Hartford. Photo groups will be allowed in with their equipment on Sunday 3/19/17 from 8:00am till 9:45am, after which time all tripods must be removed. The cost is \$10 per person.

DUES: are now due, the price has increased this year due to increasing costs, Single Membership is \$25 and Family Membership is \$35.

After the speaker we had a terrific raffle, everyone who bought a raffle ticket got to take home a a raffle plant.

SPEAKER

Our speaker tonight was Rob Dudley who spoke on *Habenaria*. Rob is very knowledgeable and gave an excellent talk and slide presentation. After presentation we all got to pot a new *Habenaria* orchid, that might be interested in a different orchid to grow speak to Rob on their culture and what is needed to grow Thanks Rob for a great presentation.



the
Anyone
should
them.

TREASURER'S REPORT

NSOS financial data is available to members upon request. Send your inquiries to our Treasurer, Nicole Coutant : nicolecoutant@gmail.com

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 Nicole Coutant, our Treasurer.

2017 Schedule of Meetings & Events

January 28th & 29th - Cape and Islands Orchid Show - The Resort Conference Center, 55 Scudder Ave., Hyannis, MA

February 4, 2017 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical Gardens, 11 French Dr, Boylston MA

February 9, 2017 - Topic TBD - Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 7 pm – 9 pm

February 9th - 12th -Deep Cut Orchid Society 20th Annual Show - Dearborn Market, 2170 Route 35 South, Holmdel, NJ

March 4, 2017 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical Gardens, 11 French Dr, Boylston MA

March 9, 2017 - Topic TBD - Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 7 pm – 9 pm

March 18th & 19th - NSOS Orchid Show & Sale, West Hartford Conference Center, 50 Main St., West Hartford

April 8, 2017 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical Gardens, 11 French Dr, Boylston MA

April 13, 2017 - Topic TBD - Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 7 pm – 9 pm

May 6, 2017 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical Gardens, 11 French Dr, Boylston MA

May 11, 2017 - Topic TBD - Farmington Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, CT @ 7 pm – 9 pm

May 20, 2017 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Stamford - Bartlett Arboretum & Garden, Silver Education Center - 151 Brookdale Rd, Stamford, Ct.

June 2, 2017 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical Gardens, 11 French Dr, Boylston MA

June 17, 2017 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Stamford - Bartlett Arboretum & Garden, Silver Education Center - 151 Brookdale Rd, Stamford, Ct.

July 1, 2017 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French dr, Boylston MA

July 15, 2017 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Stamford - Bartlett Arboretum & Garden, Silver Education Center - 151 Brookdale Rd, Stamford, Ct.

August 5, 2017 - Noon - Northeast Judging Center, Tower Hill Botanical gardens, 11 French dr, Boylston MA

August 19, 2017 - 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 @ 7 pm – 9 pm the Second Thursday of each month unless otherwise posted above or on our website



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 replot 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.

Orchid Nutrition for Winter

By Susan Jones

Planning for the optimum health and blooms of your orchids through winter and into spring is as important as their day-to-day care. Preparing now for orchids' seasonal nutritional needs can boost their resistance to damage from pests, disease and winter temperatures in the coming months

Overall Health

Orchids will fare better in encounters with pests, diseases and temperature extremes if they are in a good state of overall health. A plant suffering from under or over-fertilizing, or stressed from lack of water is much more likely to be injured by any additional strain.

Orchids grown under less than ideal conditions are more likely to be a target for infection or infestation. Make an extra effort now to get plants and their greenhouse or growing area in good shape for the shorter, darker days ahead by removing old foliage, weeds and dying flowers. An autumn cleanup can minimize or prevent the pest and disease problems that can crop up in the darker and more crowded conditions that often characterize the winter growing area.



Winter nutritional practices differ from those of the active growing season.

General Nutrition

Light levels and temperatures begin to fall at this time of year, and your orchids' nutritional needs change accordingly. Orchid growers can take the following steps now to help prepare their collection for optimal health through the months ahead.

If your orchids will winter outdoors, fertilizing properly can help them resist cold, insect and disease damage, as well as give them two to three additional degrees of cold resistance. This can mean the difference between a dead orchid and an unscathed plant or one that just loses a few leaves.

Use a fertilizer low in nitrogen (which should be nitrate nitrogen, not urea nitrogen) and high in potassium; the numbers on the label should read something like 10-5-20. Watering and fertilizing should be reduced in frequency for the cooler autumn season, and orchids that bloom during the winter and into spring should be given a couple of doses of blossom booster in October and November; bloom boosters should have a higher middle number, such as 10-50-10.

Ideally, this change in fertilizer should start by mid-November and continue through the end of January. This regime will sacrifice plant growth in December and January in favor of plant protection, but it can help keep the plant healthier overall.

Some growers recommend using Dyna-Gro Pro-TeKt (0-0-3), a liquid nutritional potassium-silicon supplement for plants. The product is supposed to improve heat and drought tolerance in orchids, as well as boosting their resistance to pests, disease and environmental stress.

Specific Genera

Seasonal nutritional needs differ among various orchid genera, and may diverge still further depending on local climatic conditions in disparate geographic regions. The following guidelines may require modification to accommodate individual growing conditions.

Cattleya

Watering and fertilizing frequency should be reduced, as the plants dry out more slowly in the cooler temperatures and shorter days. Bud sheaths may yellow at this time of year as temperature fluctuations can cause water to condense inside the sheath. Should you notice condensation in the sheath, it should be opened or removed to allow the developing buds adequate air circulation and prevent bud blast caused by rots. Simply slit open the sheath and carefully peel it down toward the pseudobulb, exercising caution so as not to damage the delicate bud primordia within.

Dendrobium

Autumn and winter needs vary according to the species or hybrid parentage in this diverse genus. *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* and *Dendrobium canaliculatum* hybrids will benefit from a fertilizer with a low nitrogen formula for optimal flowering.

The leaves of *Dendrobium nobile* types and their hybrids begin to yellow and drop at this time of year in preparation for their winter dormancy. Plants should be given plenty of light and good air circulation and kept dry from November through February. Mist occasionally if their canes become overly shriveled.

Paphiopedilum

Generally, these do not require a great deal of fertilizer. This is especially important with the cooler-growing bulldog types to reduce nitrogen levels at this time of year for best flowering. (Bulldog Paphiopedilums have plain green leaves as opposed to the mottled-leaf types. One of the best-known bulldog-type hybrids is *Paphiopedilum* Winston Churchill.) Watch for water accumulating in the growth around the sheath or for late-season warm spells, as either can rot the sheath and destroy the developing inflorescence. While Paphiopedilums should not be allowed to dry out entirely, water needs are significantly reduced in the cooler days. Overwatering can cause root rot or Erwinia problems.

Phalaenopsis

Growth slows and inflorescences begin to appear. Reduce watering and fertilizing frequency, and apply a bloom-boosting fertilizer. Many growers also recommend applications of epsom salts (magnesium sulfate) to Phalaenopsis at this time of year to prevent yellowing and loss of lower leaves and to enhance blooming.

Once buds are evident on the inflorescences, keep temperatures and humidity consistent to prevent bud drop. Phalaenopsis grown in the greenhouse are especially prone to bud blast in February and early March, when the heat is still coming on at night and the greenhouse temperatures rise during the day.



By providing the right nutrients in the fall, a bounty of blooms will follow for late-winter species such as this *Rhynchostylis gigantea* 'Banjong' AM/AOS.

Vanda

Aside from *Neofinetia falcata*, vandaceous orchids generally do not tolerate autumn and winter's cooler temperatures (below 60° F [16° C]) well and need to be carefully protected from chills. Vandaceous orchids still need as much light as possible as the days become shorter and light levels fall. Reduce the frequency of fertilizing and watering to accommodate the slower growth period they are entering. Starting the first week of October, Julie Rosenberg at R.F. Orchids in Homestead, Florida, recommends feeding vandaceous genera a blossom booster fertilizer exclusively, once a week for four to six weeks, at 1 teaspoon per gallon of water (15 ml to 3.8 l), with normal watering between. In November, begin fertilizing every other week, using a balanced 20-20-20 fertilizer at 1 teaspoon per gallon (15 ml to 3.8 l), substituting bloom booster every fourth feeding.

Preparing now for orchids' seasonal nutritional needs can mean happier, healthier and more productive plants year round.

Susan Jones was the editor of Awards Quarterly and assistant editor of Orchids. American Orchid Society, 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach, Florida 33446

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