



Conservation Through Knowledge

Nutmeg State Orchid Society Inc.

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The President's Message:



Winter will soon be here, which also means many of our orchids will be blooming soon! In our collection this means that most of our Phals and Catts are in early bud and some Paphs are now in strong pre-bud new growth. This means there are some opportunities to show your plants. We mentioned that NSOS will be exhibiting at the Massachusetts Orchid Society show at Tower Hill outside of Boston, from noon on November 5th through Sunday November 7th. If you have plants in bloom, please consider adding them to our exhibit! Plants should be brought to Jeanne McDermott's house on Wednesday, Nov 3. If you have plants but cant get to Jeanne's, call me or her and we will make sure we pick up your plant. MOS would like all plants to be registered on line by midnight, November 1. If you cannot do that, we can do on-site registration at the show when we take the plants on November 4. I will be sending the registration information to everyone.

As Jeanne McDermott announced, we had a great dinner/auction. NSOS benefited dramatically, the proceeds will go a long way to pay for rental of our meeting facilities, insurance, AOS expenses and other expenses that the society incurs.

Our next big fund-raiser will be our Annual Show and Sale in March, 2011. We are moving forward with plans and will be soliciting help with many of the activities associated with the show.

In November, our speaker will be Bill Cullina. Bill is a well-recognized horticulturist who has written many award-winning books about horticulture, particularly native American plants. Bill has also written a practical guide to keeping tropical orchids. Bill will bring copies of his book to sell at our meeting – this will be a great opportunity to get a signed copy for yourself or as a gift.

In December, we will have our Holiday Party. Details will be announced at our November meeting.

In September we had an orchid propagation workshop focused on orchid flower pollination. We have three pods developing on our practice Phalaenopsis, pictured below (see them on the left-hand stem). We will follow the pods' development, flasking and seedling growth over the next couple of years. When the first seedlings bloom, we can have a contest to name our new hybrid!



Notice Pods forming at base of blossoms

Due to the next day State Elections, the meeting location on November 1, 2010, has been changed to the Yates Community/Training Room at the Police Headquarters at 319 New Britain Avenue, Unionville. This is the building to the left of the Farmington Community and Senior Center....same campus! Please join us at 7 p.m. to hear a special speaker help us all better understand orchids

SEPT. SHOW TABLE

GROWER	PLANT NAME	TYPE	CROSS		TEMP	GROWN
Sandy Myhalik	Burana Greenstar	Den.			W	L,W,O
	Bear	Phal.	Henryanum	Sib(Hsinying 'Bear')	W	L,W
Steve Calderon	Mokara Hybrid				W	L,W,O
Ginna Plude	Golden Peacock 'Asia'	Bpl.	Bl Richard Mueller	Epi. vittellinum	I	
	Coelogyne fimbriata				I	
	Perfume Phoenix	Phal.			I	
	Sarco Elizabeth 'Red Delight'				I	
Jeanne McDermott	Memorial Bernice Foster	BL	BL Richard Mueller	B Cordata		W
	Dark Star 'Darth Vader'	Milt.				W
	Brother Gold Smith	Phal.				W
Ron Burch	Barbaras Obsession	Phal.			W	L
John Szeklas	Angel Bells 'Suzie'	Catt.			I	G
	Les Dirouilles 4N		Sorcerer's Apprentice 'Fantastic'	Grande Gigantea	I	G
Alan Stauch		Paph.	Roebellini 'Coro'	Lady Isabel		W
	Kolopekingii				I	W
	Bel Royal		Kolopakingii var topperi	Rothschildianum		W
Portia Corbett	Angraecun Longiscott 'OC'					W
		Bulb.	Echinolabium	carunculatum		w
	Kauai's Choice 'Tropical Fragrance'	Mtssa.				W



NUTMEG STATE ORCHID SOCIETY MENTOR LIST 2010

Ron Burch	Cypripediums Native orchids	860-567-0431	ronjonb@aol.com	Call/e-mail anytime
Walter Doehr	Cymbidiums, Phals., Growing under lights Hydroponics	203-634-7712	johndeered@att.net	Call/e-mail anytime
Joe Hertz	Under lights and Windowsill growing All species	860-233-5505	jhertz1015@aol.com	Call/e-mail anytime
Julia Massolin-Walas	All species, Hydroponics Pests & diseases, Mounting/Repotting Dividing	860-673-3578	orchidjulia@hotmail.com	Call/e-mail anytime
Jeanne McDermott	Windowsill growing: Phals, Paphs, Brassia, Oncidiums, Cymbidiums, Miltoniopsis & mixed genera	860-677-5381	jtmcdermott@comcast.net	Call/e-mail anytime
Sandy Myhalik	Phalaenopsis	860-677-0504	myhalik@comcast.net	
Jay Presbie	Growing under lights All species	860-651-3155	jpresbie@sprintmail.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: johndeered@att.net

BUSINESS MEETING

The Sept. Meeting was called to order by President Ron Burch. The sad news of Robert Hirnyk was given to the membership. Robert's wife Diana donated his 25 book collection to NSOS in his memory. The club has voted to name our library the "Robert Hirnyk Memorial Library". A signout log will be kept so any member can sign out the book. Robert also had many plant some of which will be donated to NSOS by his wife. .



There was a change to the By-Laws stating that any new member that signs up Sept. through Dec. will be considered having their paid through Dec. of the following year. Change was accepted by the membership.

NSOS elections will be held in Dec., The offices of Director & Co -Vice President will be open for anyone interested. Please think about one of these offices as there are more than enough people with experience to help you if needed. If anyone is interested in training as Treasurer Tom Mierzejewski would be more than willing to train that person. We are also looking for an AOS representative & a Library Chairman.

It was brought up about the upcoming shows:

- 1) Unionville festival Sept 26, we will have a display and membership info at the show.
- 2) Conn. Orchid Society Oct. 16 & 17 @ Van Wilgens in Branford. This is an AOS Sanctioned show, NSOS will not be displaying as a society.
- 3) Massachusetts Orchid Society Will be having their show on Nov. 4th - 7th. NSOS will be displaying at this show, More info to follow.
- 4) Oct. 2 NSOS annual Auction/Dinner @ Tunxis Plantation



It was announced that NSOS would be having a show committee meeting on Oct. 18 to continue planning for our upcoming show in March 2011. All members are welcome.

NSOS is also looking for a volunteer to host the annual Holiday party, coordinating the pot luck dishes.

There will be no Oct. meeting due to the Auction/Dinner

SPEAKER



Our speaker was our President Ron Burch. Ron & his wife Barbara run Gardens at Post Hill where they specialize in Cyperpediums. Ron gave us a talk on how to cross our own orchids. Ron gave a short slide show to show us the basics of crossing. After a question and answer period we all got a chance to try our hands at pollinating an orchid. It was a little daunting at first but after trying it was fun. Ron said that if any of us got a ripe seed pod he would flask it for us. Great lecture.



UPCOMING EVENTS

November 1..... Bill Cullina, of native plant cultivation and propagation fame, will present a lecture about orchid cultivation.

November 5 - 7.... Massachusetts Orchid Society show & sale “Tridents Treasure” 1pm to 5pm Friday & 10am to 5pm Saturday & Sunday – Tower Botanical - 11 French Dr., Boylston, MA

December 6..... Annual Holiday Party.

Meetings are held at the Farmington Senior Center, Room C @ 7 pm – 9 pm the first Monday of each month unless otherwise posted above or on our website.

TREASURER’S REPORT

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

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.

Refreshments : It is requested that for the April meeting, those members with last names beginning with A thru M bring in a snack or finger food to share with members. Thanks in advance for your contributions!

NSOS 2010 October FUNDRAISER DINNER/AUCTION

CONGRATULATIONS to ALL who CONTRIBUTED and to ALL who ATTENDED our NSOS Dinner/Auction!! The results truly surpassed our expectations, thanks to everyone's generosity. **SPECIAL THANKS** are extended to those who worked so hard to make this a memorable and fun evening. In spite of the efforts, it was obvious that everyone had a good time socializing and purchasing their "prized bloomers"! An outcome **we all** should be proud of!!

Please join me in recognizing our members listed below who gave from their hearts and to all of the business partners that made our auction successful. Do consider supporting those vendors if and when you are in their area, or if you have a desire to purchase plants &/or supplies in the near future.

THANKS EVERYONE!

Jeanne McDermott,
Event Chair

Member Contributors

Tony & Vivian Allaire
Rocco Basilica
Jeannine Brinkerhoff
Kathi Bruni
Ron & Barbara Burch
Steve Calderon & Sandy Myhalik
Sue Carlson
Ron & Cindy Ciarcia
Cynthia & Martin Cooper
Ruthellen Corbett
Walter & Harriet Doehr
Richard & Sally Duvall
Jill Frickenhaus
Claudia Helfgott
Diana Hirnyk
Audrey Hunt
Andi Thorne Jepson
Linda Kology
Jim Levandowski
Sue Lofgren
Lori Macgowan & Alan Stauch
Julia & Chester Massolin-Walas
Jeanne McDermott & Tom Mierzejewski
JoAnne Norr
Pauline Olsen

Vendor Contributors

AMTA Massage (Terri Battaglia)
Apricots Restaurant
Bella's Salon
Bill Cullina
Blue Acorn of West Hartford
CCCreations - Cindy Ciarcia
David's Salon
Dish n' Dat Restaurant
Gledhill Nursery
Keller Williams Realty - Lori Macgowan
Kelley's Korner
La Belle Chateau Salon & Spa
Liena Dieck Fine Art
Matthew's Restaurant
McDermott Photos
Moscarillo's Garden Shoppe
Mount Prospect Orchids
Nature Glassworks
Noella's Spa & Nails
Piping Rock Orchids
Playhouse on Park
Pond House Restaurant
Reflexions
rePotme.com
Skyspyders Pottery

Barbara Parafati

Belle Ribicoff

Pete Spalter

John Sziklas

Mary Steele

Kurt & Gerhild Walter

the orchidePhile

Tunxis Plantation Country Club

Venamy Orchids

2010 Auction/Dinner



[More Pictures on the Website](#)

Robert Hiyak Memorial Library

	TITLE	AUTHOR	PUB
1	Book of Orchids	Withner, Dr. Carl	1985
2	Botanical Orchids and How to Grow Them	Kramer, Jack	1998
3	Complete Guide to Maine's Orchids	Kenan, Philip E.	1983
4	Exotic Orchids -- Successful Indoor Gardening	Rittershausen, Wilma	1989
5	Expanding Your Orchid Collection	Rentoul, J. N.	1989
6	Field Guide to the Orchids of Britain and Europe	Williams, John & Andrew	1978
7	Flowers of the Amazon Forest	Mee, Margaret	1988
8	Forgotten Orchids of Alexandra Brun	Cribb, Philip	1992
9	International Book of Orchids	Hunt, P. Francis	1979
10	Miniature Orchids	McQueen, Jim and Barbara	1992
11	Orchid Genera Illustrated	Sheehan, Tom and Marion	1979
12	Orchids	Black, Peter McKenzie	1973
13	Orchids	Menzies, David	1991
14	Orchids -- A Guide to Cultivation	Cribb, Dr. Philip & Bales, Chris	1992
15	Orchids -- Natural History & Classification	Dressler, Robert L.	1990
16	Orchids -- Wonders of Nature	Kijima, Takashi	1987
17	Orchids at Kew	Stewart, Joyce	1992
18	Orchids from Seed	Thompson, P.A.	1974
19	Orchids of Africa	Stewart, Joyce & Hennessey, Esme F.	1981
20	Orchids of Asia	Eng Soon, Teoh	1980
21	Slipper Orchids	Hennessey, Esme F. & Hedge Tessa A.	1989
22	Southern African Epiphytic Orchids	Paul, John S.	1978
23	The Specialist Orchid Grower	Rentoul, J. N.	1987
24	Wild Orchids of Britain and Europe	Davies, Paul and Jenne	1983
25			

Monthly Checklist for November and December

Cattleya

Growers of just about every level of expertise will have begun to notice autumn conditions by now. Days are becoming shorter, hence cooler; the sunlight has less intensity as a result of the sun's lowering angle, nights are longer and generally cooler. Plants are responding by slowing and ripening their growth in preparation for winter.

The first cultural change noticed should be a reduced frequency of watering, as the plants dry out more slowly. This is a function of both the reduced day length and lower temperatures, as well as the plants' slowing growth rate. Reduced water needs signal a reduced need for fertilization. Note that the key word is reduced, not eliminated. Feed less frequently and at lower dosage, but feed. Growths, made during summer's heat, and relatively soft and green, will be ripening -- hardening -- in preparation for a brief period of rest (in many cases).

Many of these ripening growths will have a sheath, presaging the coming winter or spring flowering season. In some cases, these sheaths will have been evident since as early as July. (Early sheath development does not mean early flowering on plants with winter-spring seasons.) You may notice that some of these sheaths are showing signs of yellowing. This is not abnormal. Autumn's more pronounced temperature fluctuation can lead to water condensation inside the sheath, hastening the normal process of senescence, so yellowing sheaths can be left on the plant only so long before they must be carefully removed to preserve the bud primordia within. Water condensation left unchecked can rot the bud primordia. The sheaths can be safely removed by slitting open and peeling down toward the pseudobulb.

Cool-Growing Orchids

One can almost hear a sigh of relief from all of the cool-growers, from masdevallias to odontoglossums. As day temperatures decline, one can see a noticeable improvement in these plants. Shorter days and lower light levels do not seem to bother them. Repot before winter arrives.

Cymbidium

Finally we begin in earnest the main cymbidium season. *Cymbidium ensifolium* can give some early and fragrant hybrids, but it is now that the bulk of the crop will be flowering. The season lasts for about seven months, adding color to any collection. Miniature varieties will peak for the next three to four months. There are three important things to do: stake inflorescences ramrod straight for best presentation, watch for slugs and snails (especially just after a rain), and fertilize with a mild balanced formula regularly.

Oncidium crispum Complex

This is the season for plants in Oncidium section crispum from Brazil to shine. Extremely vigorous hybrids come in wide varieties of markings dominated with chestnut and brown and butter yellow. Give plants high light to produce strong upright inflorescences. The pseudobulbs should be plump, so do not let the plants dry out while they are in bloom. Later, plants will enter a dormant period.

Paphiopedilum

The flowering season for the "toads" or "bulldog" paphs is just getting underway. These cannot be grown everywhere, but where cooler summer nights allow their growth, there is no longer-lasting or more exotic display than these. Paphiopedilums are, in general, not heavy feeders, and it is especially important with this type to reduce nitrogen levels now for best flowering and spike length. Be watchful for water accumulating in the growth around the sheath, or for the late-season warm spell, either of which can lead to the sheath's rotting. As the spikes emerge, do not change the orientation of the plant toward the light, as this can lead to a crooked or twisted spike.

While paphiopedilums rarely like to dry out entirely, water needs are significantly reduced beginning now. Overwatering at this time of year can quickly lead to root rot or erwinia problems. Now is the time to practice good sanitary practices in your greenhouse or growing areas, as pest and disease problems have a way of multiplying rapidly in the darker and more crowded conditions that generally mark the winter growing area. With paphiopedilums, especially, "cleanliness is next to godliness" and if the growing area is littered with old foliage, weeds and dying flowers, keeping the plants alive and flowering will be next to impossible.

Phalaenopsis

Shortening days and cooler nights are the signals for inflorescence initiation in phalaenopsis. In more northern climates, or on the west coast, growers have already begun to see the early inflorescences that may be ready for Christmas. In the eastern areas, nights in the greenhouse will now be in the low to mid 60s, depending on the thermostat setting, so the first of our phalaenopsis will not begin to bloom until Valentine's Day at the earliest.

A reduction in nitrogen levels will go a long way to giving the best possible spiking, as will a boost in potassium and phosphorus. In other words, a "bloom booster"-type fertilizer is definitely indicated in the next few months. Disease and pest problems are best dealt with now, especially as mealybugs hide in the bracts and flower buds. Once they have established themselves, they are difficult to eradicate, and flower damage or crippling results. Potential disease problems can be dealt with by the application of a copper-based compound to control/alleviate rot problems before they start. There is nothing more frustrating than to have shepherded your plants through a growing season, only to have them decline before your eyes.

Vandaceous Genera

Whereas the general decline in temperatures is beneficial to cool-growing orchids, it is not for vandaceous plants. The only cold-hardy member is *Neofinetia falcata*. Orient your plants in such a way as to take advantage of as much light as possible. This can be a problem in northern latitudes. Reduce watering and feeding schedules.

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

AOS Corner

Coming in from the Cold

By Susan Jones

Many growers summer their orchids outdoors to take advantage of the sun and fresh air unavailable to them inside a greenhouse or home. Before bringing plants back inside their winter growing area, check them thoroughly for hitchhikers — plant and insect pests that may ride into the growing area on the returning plants.



Oxalis is a common weed in orchid pots and difficult to pull out. Seedpods can spread seeds over a wide area.

Visually inspect the upper and undersides of leaves and flowers, and around the base of the plant. Check the growing medium and pot or basket exterior from top to bottom. Some growers recommend a few treatments with a systemic insecticide at weekly intervals before bringing plants back in for the fall, even if no pests are in evidence.

A sampling of the many orchid pests growers should be on the lookout for after summering plants outdoors is listed on the opposite page.

In addition to insects, all sorts of weeds can establish in orchid pots or baskets, siphoning off needed water, light and fertilizer from the host orchid. Once introduced into a protected environment such as an indoor growing area, they can quickly spread through a collection.

Controls

The key to control is persistence. Regardless of method or chemical used, remain vigilant and expect to make at least two to three weekly applications.

Alcohol A popular home remedy is swabbing bugs off plants with isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol and a Q-tip™. This works for smaller populations of aphids, mealybugs and scale.

Repotting During extreme infestation, consider replacing the potting medium. Media can harbor weed seeds, as well as pest eggs and crawlers, so dispose of it in a compost pile or in the garbage. When repotting, a close inspection, and if necessary, a very gentle cleaning and spraying of the roots is essential.

Oils, Soaps, and Sterilants Horticultural, neem, and mineral oils smother the insect's breathing pores. These and insecticidal soaps, which dissolve the insect's cuticle, are generally considered safer for use around humans, pets, and plants than insecticides. Weekly applications reduce populations of mites, aphids, scale, mealybugs, sow bugs and pill bugs.

Growth Regulators and Chitin Inhibitors Insect-growth regulators, such as Enstar II, include a growth regulator that kills eggs and prevents insect maturation. These need a spreader-sticker (like silicon) to be effective. They are generally regarded as safe around humans and pets.

Insecticides Persistent or heavy infestations may require last-resort applications of synthetic insecticides. Some of the more effective insecticides are Orthene (wettable powder), Malathion (liquid), Diazinon (liquid), and Carbaryl (water-based emusifiable concentrate). Always follow label directions and never exceed the minimum recommended concentration given in mixing directions. Systemic insecticides (Orthene, Shield) absorb into the plant's sap stem, poisoning chewing and sucking insects. Pyrethrum, a natural insecticide derived from plant sources, attacks insects' nervous systems.



Slugs will eat flowers, buds, root tips and new growths. Plants that are summered outdoors are favored haunts for these hungry mollusks.

Individual Pests

Most insecticides have little effect on mites, but there are a number of chemicals specifically for mite control (called acaricides or miticides). A homemade general insecticide that is also effective against mites is 1 pint (.57 l) each of 409 household cleaner and rubbing alcohol, mixed with

water to make 1 gallon (4.55 l) of spray.

When controlling aphids, mealybugs and scale, one must also eliminate any ants that protect and farm them. Insecticidal sprays are effective against worker ants that transport and protect the other pests. Use this in conjunction with sugar-based ant baits to kill off the rest of the colony.

For snail and slug control, organic (such as Sluggo, EscarGo, and Worry Free) and chemical baits (such as metaldehyde) are available from garden supply retailers. Many growers also hand-pick the critters off or set out a small tuna-fish type can filled with beer to drown the mollusks. Repotting and thoroughly cleaning all old media from the orchid's roots will eliminate any eggs that may be lurking in the pots.

Roaches, pill bugs, sow bugs and ants can be driven from a plant by immersing the pot, right up over the top of the media, in a bucket of water. The insects will emerge to avoid drowning, and may then be disposed of.

Roaches may also be controlled through the use of baits, but learn quickly to avoid many chemical baits. Roaches will eat borax, however. West Palm Beach Judging Center Photographer Greg Allikas' simple homemade bait can be constructed by gluing a few boric acid tablets (available in grocery stores) to the inside bottom of an empty 35-mm film can. Set the film cans horizontally on the surface of plants' media.

Weeds must be eliminated by hand. Herbicides are likely to damage or kill the orchid host along with the weed. To eradicate well-established weeds, it may be necessary to repot the plant in order to eliminate seeds in the medium.

Final Considerations

On the extreme side, for a plant showing signs of decline from pest or disease, consider whether the low likelihood of rejuvenating the plant justifies the expense and effort of continued treatments. Destruction of a sick plant can not only be used to justify the purchase of a new, healthier one, but may keep the rest of the collection from becoming infected, making it a precaution well worth taking.

Never apply any liquid pest treatment in direct sunlight or high heat. To prevent burning of tissues, always shade plants until the solution dries. Whenever chemical controls are employed, always check to see that the product has been approved for application to orchids, and follow carefully all instructions for the product's safe use. To minimize risks of developing a treatment-resistant pest population, change methods and chemicals occasionally; do not use the same chemical mix more than three to four times sequentially.

Before nighttime temperatures dip too low, take the time to return orchids summering outdoors to their indoor growing spaces. In addition to checking for insects and other pests, remember that a change in environments, especially the light conditions and humidity levels, can impact how successfully your orchids make the transition from the garden back into the greenhouse or home.



Aphids can multiply quickly so it is best to eliminate them before bringing plants inside.

Insect Hitchhikers/Inspect Orchids for These Pests Prior to Bringing them Indoors

Aphids can be found on new growth, at the base of buds, on flowers and on the undersides of leaves. They feed on plant juices, causing poor growth, stunted plants or curled and distorted leaves. Where buds are attacked, the flower — if it opens at all — will be mottled and distorted. The sap sucking may result in wilting, deformed plant growth,

yellowing, and even loss of leaves. Another sign of aphids is the presence of ants or sooty mold attracted to the honeydew secreted by these insects. Aphids' salivary secretions can also be toxic to their host plant. Traveling between plants, aphids can introduce and spread virus and disease.

Mealybugs suck the sap from plants; they feed under bracts and sheaths, and on the roots. Signs of an infestation include small whitish, powdery or cottony looking deposits on plants. As the damage progresses, leaves may curl, yellow, become stunted, and/or drop. In addition, flower production and stem growth may be reduced. Like aphids and some scales, mealybugs also secrete honeydew, which attracts ants and promotes the growth of sooty molds.

Mites, due to their almost microscopic size, are often detected by the damage they inflict. This makes a plant's leaves look silvery, especially on the underside, where they have killed the cells of the surface layer. From the top, the leaf often has many tiny yellow spots that turn brown over time. Mites can severely weaken and disfigure orchids by sucking sap and chlorophyll, causing leaves to blanch and appear silvery, and bruised-looking areas on flowers. Because of their feeding style, they are also potential vectors of diseases.

Pill Bugs and Sow Bugs are nocturnal scavengers that prefer to live in humid, sheltered areas that have plentiful decaying organic material (like broken down orchid media), such as orchid pots. They feed on the fungi and bacteria in the dead and rotting vegetation. Orchid roots are damaged when these bugs eat the fungi and microorganisms that inhabit the root surfaces.

Roaches enter orchid pots through drainage holes and remain hidden in the growing media by day. Plants kept on the ground are especially vulnerable. The presence of roaches is indicated by their damage to plants (nibbled flowers, root tips and roots, and new growth).

Scale establish on the undersides of leaves, down in leaf axils, and beneath the papery sheaths on orchid pseudobulbs, and so may go undetected until they reach infestation level. Adult scale have a waxy protective coating, under which the insect feeds on plant sap, creating chlorotic spots on plant leaves.

Snails and Slugs prefer to eat blooms, roots and tender new growths, although they will consume any plant part. They do their damage primarily at night, leaving translucent, shiny slime trails; holes with uneven brown edges eaten through the flower tissues; nibbled roots — thicker roots may only have small pockmarklike holes eaten into them, while smaller, finer roots may be eaten clean through; new growths may be damaged or chewed down to a nub.

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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