



# Delray Beach Orchid Society

VOLUME 15 Issue: 1

January, 2019

## Orchid Shows This Month

### [TAMIAMI INTERNATIONAL ORCHID FESTIVAL](#)

WHEN: Friday - Sunday, January 11th - 13th, 2019 from 10am to 6pm daily

WHERE: Dade County Fairgrounds Expo Center - 10901 Coral Way (S.W. 24th St) Miami, FL 33165 [Get Directions](#)

TICKETS: \$12 | Kids under 12 - Free Get Tickets

### [Fort Lauderdale Orchid Show](#)

WHEN: January 25, 26, and 27, 2019 10am - 6pm

Where:  
War Memorial Auditorium  
2867, 800 NE 8th St, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

[Get Directions](#)

## AOS Basic Growing

### D IS FOR DENDROBIUM



*Den. grown by Ed Whelan*

The usual advice for these dendrobiums is to keep the pot size small for the size (height) of the plant. They have short rhizomes and fine roots that do not need large pots. Because the pseudobulbs, or "canes", are tall, plants in plastic pots can become top heavy and unstable, especially when in bloom. We like to use a few pieces of smooth landscape "river rock" in the bottom of pots to add stability. You can also nest blooming plastic-potted DenPhals in a large, heavier clay pot.

Like cattleyas, water plants when they

## Welcome

### Message from Your President

Hello DBOS members,  
Even though my business background is in the boring world of auditing and accounting, my true passion is digging in the dirt. It's what I do to keep my sanity... I'm quite sure that some of you would like to take exception to that statement (LOL)!)



V.garayi X V. ampullacea

Orchids are just one of my obsessions - I also raise roses, bromeliads & succulents. Though I've been raising orchids for years (growing up in Delray Beach, my mother had an orchid house with some real beauties), I still consider myself a beginner. I don't know all the fancy Latin names and still have an orchid or two commit suicide every now and then. But truly love them - the way they look, the way they smell, the way they make me feel.

I'm hoping in the coming year that we can all learn how to take care of our orchids together - how to water them, how to transplant them, where to keep them, what makes them happy.

I welcome your input on future topics - feel free to let me know what interests you and send me an [e-mail](#) at or call me at 954-695-7889. Our Board is planning several fun events throughout the next year to keep our society interesting and exciting - field trips to orchid shows & vendors, rambles to members homes, wine in the garden, etc.

It's my goal to keep you apprised of these extra-curricular activities and to keep our society fun while providing you some educational programs as well. Your DBOS Board is working to make this happen.

See you Wednesday, January 9th. Doors open at 6:30pm and the meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Michele Owens, President

WELCOME TO OUR NEW 2019 BOARD

are almost dry from the previous watering. Temperatures should be kept in the 60-90° F range although plants can tolerate cooler temperatures for short periods. If subjected to 50° F or below for more than a few nights plants may show their displeasure by dropping leaves over the following weeks.

Any fast draining potting media will suffice for DenPhals and should be replaced every 2-3 years. Plants should be given less water and fertilizer in winter.

TO READ THE ENTIRE AOS ARTICLE, [CLICK HERE](#)

## Odontoglossums



These high-altitude orchids from the New World Tropics flourish where cool temperatures prevail year round. Odontoglossums are known for their striking sprays of flowers. Culture is similar for hybrids in this group, some being Odontonia, Odontioda and Vuylstekeara.

Light should be bright. In a greenhouse, levels from 2,000 to 5,000 foot-candles are acceptable as long as heat levels can be kept down. If summer day temperatures are high, light levels can be reduced to cool the growing area. While these are not generally considered to be good houseplants, they may succeed at an east window or a shaded south window; western exposures are usually too warm in most climates.

Temperatures must be exacting for these plants. Day temperatures below 75 to 80 F are almost essential year round. Night temperatures of 55 to 58 F are best. Short periods of warmer day temperatures may be tolerated, especially if humidity and air movement are at optimal levels, nights are cool and the plants have healthy root systems.

Water should be plentiful, coupled with perfect drainage. The potting medium should just begin to dry before watering. This may mean watering every two to seven days, depending on weather, pot size and material, and type of potting medium. Accordion-pleating on leaves is a symptom of insufficient water or humidity. As with other orchids from high-rainfall areas, odontoglossums are particularly sensitive to poor-quality water, which will give poor roots and leaf-tip burn.

Humidity, coupled with moving air, should be ideally 40 to 80 percent. Evaporative cooling in a greenhouse increases humidity



**Lt. Barbara Shaw, James Mangan, Bernadette Garfinkel, Judith Cohen, Bill Thrall, Michele Owens, Annette Jackson, Buddy Rappaport, Priscilla Roper, Susan Santoro, Kathy Moore, Travis Ewing. Missing Donna Holt-Swanson**

## JANUARY SPEAKER: Scott Peplin

We welcome Scott Peplin and hope you will join us to hear his interesting and educational lecture on "Creating Orchid Environments". He will focus on how to analyze your own environment, to determine the best orchids to grow, as well as ideas to use what you have available to create the orchid environment you didn't think possible.

Scott Peplin's passion for growing orchids started in 1994. That passion grew into a full time business in 2013 when he started International Orchid Services, Inc. IOS was created to assist the orchid enthusiast in managing and maximizing their collections by creating environments that orchids thrive in and are pleasing to the eye.

Scott has served on the board at the Ft Lauderdale Orchid Society, lectures at societies and garden clubs, plus teaches a monthly, progressive orchid class at his home. His private collection has approximately 1,000 orchids, many of them specimen size orchids.

## AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY: PESTS

### **Roaches, not just snails and slugs damage orchids** **By Susan Jones**

There are more than 3,500 roach species, 57 of them in the United States. The smokey brown (*Periplaneta fuliginosa*), German (*Blattella germanica*), American (*Periplaneta americana*, waterbug or Palmetto bug), Oriental (*Blatta orientalis*, waterbugs or black beetle), Asian (*Blattella asahinai*), woods (*Cryptocercus punctulatus*) and brown-banded (*Supella longipalpa*) roaches are most common in the United States.

Roaches have few natural enemies. They are adaptable and extremely hardy, able to survive 30 days without water and up to three months without food. They prefer carbohydrates, and feed on almost any vegetable material; they have even been known to eat the starch in book bindings. In addition to damaging orchids, roaches are a health hazard, carrying disease-causing bacteria harmful to humans.

#### **Life Cycle**

Roaches are primarily nocturnal and thrive in home and greenhouse conditions. Prolific breeders, an egg-laying female can produce several thousand offspring in a single year. Eggs hatch into nymphs that molt several times before maturity. The adults of some species fly.

#### **Symptoms**

Roaches enter orchid pots through drainage holes. Outdoor plants are especially vulnerable, particularly if kept on the ground. Roaches

are highly recommended for these orchids in most climates. Fogging the air or dampening the floor with water also helps cool and humidify. In the home, set the plants on trays above moist pebbles, with the pots resting above the water.

Fertilize regularly with a dilute solution while plants are actively growing. Applications of 30-10-10 formulations twice a month are ideal for plants in a bark-based potting medium. A 20-20-20 formulation should be used on other media. If weather is overcast, applications once a month are sufficient. Some growers use a high-phosphorus 10-30-20 blossom-booster formulation as plants approach flowering to increase flower count and substance.

Potting should be done as new growth becomes about half mature, which is usually in the spring or autumn. These plants need to be underpotted, so when repotting leave only enough room for one to two years of new growth. Underpotting also enables the grower to provide the more frequent watering these plants need as the smaller pots dry more quickly and evenly when filled with roots. A fine-grade potting medium with excellent drainage is required; because the medium is kept moist, annual or biannual repotting is normal. Spread the roots over a cone of potting medium and fill in around the roots with more medium. Firm the potting mix around the roots. Keep humidity high and the pot dry until new roots form.  
From the [AOS](#)

### 2019 Board and Trustees

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WE WANT TO HEAR

are nocturnal feeders, so their presence is usually noticed only after plant damage (nibbled flowers, root tips and roots and new growth) has occurred.

### Prevention

To keep roaches out, close off cracks around pipes and electric lines in the home or greenhouse with cement or screening. Keep the growing environment clean and free of leaf litter that provides food and cover. Indoors, caulk cracks along baseboards, walls, cupboards and around pipes, sinks and bathtub fixtures. Seal food tightly, do not leave pet food out, rinse used dishes left overnight and restrict access to water.

### Controls

Approaches to managing roaches include natural repellents, dusts, baits and mechanical controls. The effectiveness of each method may vary, and combinations of treatments may be necessary.

### Repellents

The following sprays can be used alone or in combination:

-- Dr. Bronner's Eucalyptus or Peppermint Soap: 2 ounces per gallon of water (57 ml per 4.5 l).

-- Garlic or Rosemary oil: 3 ounces per gallon of water (85 ml per 4.5 l), with a teaspoon (5 ml) of mild dishwashing soap as a spreader/sticker.

-- Insecticidal soap, mixed per package instructions.

To read the entire American Orchid Society article , [click here.](#)

[www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org)

## MOTES ORCHIDS

### Growing Orchids In January

**The most delightful of Decembers is blending into a delightful start to January. The day time temperatures in the low 80's and night temperatures in the upper 60's to low 70's suit our vandas perfectly. The wide swings of day to night temperature provide abundant stimulus to both roots and flower spikes. This extra growth will yield an abundance**



Vanda tessellata X V. longitepala

**of flowers in late January and February. While vandas are thriving in the unseasonable warmth, other genera that are dormant or semi-dormant will need to be persuaded to remain so. Care with watering and total withholding of fertilizer is required.**

**Extra care should also be taken in watering in general because while the higher temperatures accelerate drying, the shorter nights give fungus more opportunity under warmer, more favorable situations. Watering early in the day is especially important under these conditions. All organisms, not just our orchids, respond to higher temperatures with increased activity. Thrips, normally subdued by lower temperatures may occasionally be a problem in winter when the weather is warm enough. They should be scouted for with careful observation of the root tips of vandas where any pitting at the point of juncture of growing tip and white velamen heralds the arrival of Thrips. Take control with the methods outlined in Florida Orchid Growing. Mites, of course, relish both dry and warm. Fortunately, temperatures are still moderate enough to use oil to control them. Four tablespoons of cooking oil in a gal of water kept in as much agitation as possible will effectively kill mites. This treatment, however, must be followed in 7-10 by another miticide. One of the best is liquid dishwashing soap (we like Ajax) at the rate of 2 oz. per gal of water. This second application is**

If you have any suggestions or comments regarding the Society, meetings or this newsletter, please feel free to contact our President, Michele Owens at 954-695-7889 or [email](#).

If you have special event in your life or know of a member who is ill, please call our Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Shaw 716-574-9573 or [email](#). Moving? Changed your e-mail or phone number? We don't want to lose contact with you. Please contact our Membership Chair, Donna Holt Swanson. [email](#)

essential since most miticides leave some eggs unharmed and mite populations can quickly rebuild.

The drought has kept the perpetually malicious snail population sleeping but a heavy rain and warm temperatures can revive them. Be alert and apply a light sprinkle of snail bait should a front release enough rain and then quickly recede leaving us warm again.

While enjoying the magnificent weather, take a little time to groom your best plants for exhibition at the Tamiami International Orchid Festival where they can garner the awards recognition they deserve. Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, seven best in class, and best specimen all garner cash at the orchid festival--Grand Champion (\$500), Reserve Champion (\$250) or Best in Class (\$100). Bring them to the [Tamiami Orchid Festival](#) Thursday afternoon, Jan.10. About that Festival.....

From [Dr. Martin Motes](#)

To watch his Youtube video on dendrobiums [click here](#)

### Upcoming Meetings and Events

January 9, 2019 - Scott Peplin - Creating an Orchid Environment

February 13, 2019 - Annual Orchid Auction

March 13, 2019 - TBA

April 10, 2019 - Kristan Uthus, New World Orchids

May 8, 2019 - Phillip Hamilton, owner of Bredren Orchids

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***Our goal is to stimulate interest, provide education and enable the exchange of information among orchid lovers interested in the culture of orchids.***

DELRAY BEACH ORCHID SOCIETY  
PO Box 6571  
Delray Beach, FL. 33482

Monthly Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, except December. Start time 7:00 PM

Location: Veterans Park Adult Recreation Building, 802 NE 1 Street, Delray Beach, FL. 33483

954-695-7889

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