



Delray Beach Orchid Society

VOLUME 15 Issue: 2

February, 2019

From the Editor

Due to technical difficulties, I was not able to include photos in this issue. I apologize and next month the newsletter will again have pictures.

Time to Renew Membership

It is that time of the year again to pay your annual dues of \$15.00.

If you attended the annual Holiday Party your dues were included.

All new members who joined from August 1 to December 31st are paid through 12/31/19.

Dues can be paid at the February meeting or mailed to DBOS, P.O. Box 6571, Delray Beach 33482.

Thank you for your continuing membership.

Redlands Winter Open House

February 15-17, 2019

A weekend of sales, fun and free classes!
9:00am - 5:00pm each day
Sales Specials at All Four Nurseries

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- Soroa Orchids, ph: 305-247-2566
25750 S.W. 177th Avenue (Krome Avenue), Homestead, FL 33031
- Whimsy Orchids, ph: 305-242-1333

Welcome

Message from Your President

Hello DBOS members,

I'm really excited about our orchid auction at this week's meeting - we've got over 40 plants to auction this year - all fresh from the recent orchid shows. We're planning to start bidding on most plants around \$10 so be sure to bring cash or a check to collect your winning plants. Next month our speaker will be Hyla Levine from Green Barn Orchid Supplies.

I hope you've been enjoying our lovely south Florida weather. I don't know about you but all of my Phals are spiking or blooming right now thanks to our "cold snap". Unfortunately I've also discovered some diseased plants from all the rain. Have you been having the same issues?

The Wine in the Garden get together was lots of fun and many of our DBOS members came and enjoyed delightful food, wine and beverages provided by our super hospitality team of Bernadette, Chickie, Priscilla, Travis and Eva. We shared good conversations and plants with DBOS members and friends. Thanks to everyone who participated and shared their plants with us.

See you Wednesday, February 13, 2019. Doors open at 6:30pm and the meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Michele Owens
President

AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY: PESTS

Caterpillars

By Susan Jones

Caterpillars, the immature stages of moths and butterflies, can do significant damage to orchid plants. One of the common garden pests referred to as chewing insects, which includes caterpillars, beetles and some worms, caterpillars are voracious feeders and can do a great deal of damage to the flowers and foliage of an orchid in a short amount of time.

All caterpillars have chewing mouthparts, usually three pairs of true legs on the front of the body, and usually four pairs of unjointed soft fleshy projections called prolegs on the abdomen with a fifth pair, the anal prolegs, at the posterior end. The body is usually cylindrical in shape and varies from slender to robust.

For details on classes [click here](#)

AOS Basic Growing

VANDAS

--- CULTURE ---

Temperature: Most are warm-growing; some species from moderate elevations (e.g. *V. coerulea*) are intermediate growers.

Light: Bright light

Bright light Daily watering if in baskets

Fertilizer: Balanced formula weekly when in growth

Potting: Usually in baskets with little or no medium. Pots are acceptable. Plants should be disturbed as infrequently as possible.

Vanda species are generally tall monopodial plants that usually bloom but once a year. Combined with *Ascocentrum*, plants that bloom several times a year are produced. The leaves are strap-shaped as opposed to the pencil shape of *Papilionanthe* species. The leaves of Vanda usually have erose (uneven and irregular) cut tips. The flowers which range in size from 1 to about 4 inches are very popular. Many of the species are very fragrant and the flowers long lasting. Much hybridizing is being done with many of the species that were relatively unknown a short time ago. Thus in collections, it is easy to find commonly grown species such as *V. coerulea* and *V.*

Life Cycles

The life cycle of moths and butterflies is divided into four stages: egg, destructive caterpillar or larva, pupa or resting stage, and adult butterfly or moth. Adult females usually lay their eggs on the host plants, and may choose a nice orchid for that purpose. The caterpillars begin feeding immediately upon hatching, and continue until the pupal stage is reached and they are rendered harmless to your plants. During the pupal stage, transformation to the adult moth or butterfly takes place.

Controls

The first line of defense against caterpillars is prevention. Keeping the growing area clean and free of fallen leaves and debris minimizes the places for insect pests and their eggs and larvae to hide. Maintain a healthy collection by attending to the basic cultural needs of your orchids. Orchidists are an acquisitive bunch, but overcrowded plants allow pests and disease to spread through a collection much more quickly than those given adequate growing space. Regular checks of the undersides of leaves, especially during the spring and summer, may turn up moth or butterfly eggs that will develop into caterpillars. Simply pick off the eggs and dispose of them.

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

MOTES ORCHIDS

Growing Orchids In February

January began both drier and warmer than usual to the delight of our orchids and ourselves. The month ended wetter and somewhat colder than is typical. The cold wet end to the month presented both present and future problems for our orchids. The additional rain and the hours of overcast skies in the shortened days of winter allowed leaf spotting fungi unusual opportunities to develop.



Vanda tessellata X V. longitepala

When cold fronts stall as they have repeatedly this year, extra care must be taken in watering. Most sympodial genera are perfectly happy to be run a bit drier whenever the opportunity presents itself. Even vandas in the short days and cool temperatures are happy to go for two or more days without water. As water is one of the best defenses against extreme cold its judicious use is always dictated in winter but even more so this winter. Should leaf spotting show up, it is always best to isolate individual plants in a dry place. Lesions can be treated with a slurry of fungicide, mancozeb (*Dithane M45*, *Manzate*) either alone or in combination with cupric hydroxide (*Kocide*), applied with a Q-tip or an old toothbrush. The mixture can be kept in a small jar and refreshed with water as needed.

Never, never apply chemical as a dust as the danger of inhaling them is far too great. We have more information on this topic on our website, which you can read by clicking here.

The pattern of weather produced by the exceptionally large broad cold fronts covering most of the continent appears likely to persist. These fronts passing over both Atlantic and Gulf waters are usually tempered and frequently stall over us or slightly further south. The

denisoniana growing beside some of the lesser known species such as V. dearei, V. lamellata or V. merrilli.

Number of species:

Currently the World Monocot Checklist recognizes 52 species and 3 natural hybrids. Several species have recognized varietal forms as well. (7/2009)

Distribution:

Widespread in tropical Asia from India, east to Southeast Asia, Indo-China, New Guinea, Australia and the Philippines to Taiwan and the adjacent islands.

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

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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

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

savage winter that is being experienced up north is also like to persist later this year. Knowledge of the cold sensitive of various genera outlined in Florida Orchid Growing (p.117-120) is essential to protecting our most vulnerable plants.

While enduring the slightly colder patches of weather and the added rain and increased humidity, we can take comfort in the fact that these conditions are suppressing mites. Hopefully, these periods of cold will keep our perpetual foes, the snails, dormant but a watchful eye needs to be prepared to observe and deal with them when the weather

Extra care should also be taken in From [Dr. Martin Motes](#)
To watch his Youtube video on dendrobiums [click here](#)

Upcoming Meetings and Events

February 13, 2019 - Annual Orchid Auction

March 13, 2019 - Hyla Levin, Green Barn Orchid Supplies. "Basic Orchid Care and Repotting Techniques".

April 10, 2019 - Kristan Uthus, New World Orchids

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

June 12, 2019 - Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids, Calif.

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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](#)



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ANNUAL DUES

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

Visit our Web Site [Click here](#)

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We are a non profit 501 {c} 3 organization