



Delray Beach Orchid Society

VOLUME 15 Issue: 3

March, 2019

Welcome

February Auction



Scott and Susan



Chickie and Kathy, Hosts

Message from Your President

Hello DBOS members,

Last month's orchid auction was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who participated but especially to Scott and Susan Santoro our illustrious auctioneers.

Our speaker this month is Hyla Levine from Green Barn Orchid Supply. She will be discussing "Basic Orchid Care & Repotting Techniques".



V. denisoniana

Beginner's Corner:

I'm excited to say that we're bringing back our Beginner's Corner. Every month at 6:40 PM (just before the regular meeting starts) we will hold a workshop for anyone with questions regarding orchid care. Feel free to bring photos of your plants if you have any specific questions.

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 March meeting or mailed to DBOS, P.O. Box 6571, Delray Beach 33482.

Thank you for your continuing membership.

Save the Date:

Sunday, April 28

Field Trip to Orchid Growers in Homestead

Details to Follow

Question Box:

Have a question regarding orchid care? We're planning to answer member questions at the end of each meeting (time permitting). Look for the Question Box on the sign in table. Feel free to ask those burning questions and our team of orchid experts will do their best to give you an answer.

Suggestion Box:

We want to hear from you! To insure that our members are getting the most out of our society, we're implementing a suggestion box. Feel free to suggest new topics or discussions for future meetings, field trips, special events or outings.

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

Michele Owens

ANNUAL AUCTION**Why won't my orchid rebloom ?**

Insufficient light is the most common cause of failure to re-bloom your orchid. Leaf color indicates if the amount of light is adequate. The lush, rich, dark green of most houseplants is not desirable in orchid leaves. A grassy green color (light or medium green with yellowish tones) means the plant is receiving sufficient light to bloom. The orchid on the left shows the correct leaf color and is producing abundant blooms, the plant on the right has dark green leaves and no flowers. Orchid plants need sunlight. Light is used to turn moisture and nutrients into plant growth. A good rule is to give your plants as much light as possible without scorching. While too much light may damage the plants, too little light will prevent flowering or cause weak growth.

Too much sunlight is indicated by scorched spots on the foliage or pseudobulbs where the sun hits directly. Rarely does sunburn discolor an entire plant, only the portion of the green parts that is hit by direct sun for too long a period. Increased light should be given gradually. Burn damage is caused when the plant tissue gets too hot. If a leaf feels hot to your fingers, it may be burning. If you can cool down the leaf temperature with moving air and water, then the light can be brighter without doing any harm.

Morning sun is more beneficial to plants than afternoon sun. Therefore your growing area should be located to get maximum sun and light early in the day. A windowsill chosen for orchids should face east or south. To read entire article, [click here](#)

AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY: PESTS**Whiteflies**
By Susan Jones

Whitefly from AOS

Whiteflies (*Aleurothrix*) are sucking insects, related to aphids and scales, that feed on plant sap. The adults are small (approximately 1/16 inch ([1.5 mm] long), with a fine white powdery wax over their four white wings and body. Both the adults and immature whiteflies are found on the undersides of leaves. In sufficient numbers, whiteflies will weaken and eventually kill this host plant.

Life Cycle

Female whiteflies lay eggs on the undersides of a plant's upper leaves. Following an incubation period of four to 12 days, those eggs hatch out into crawling nymphs. The nymphs

commence feeding by piercing the leaf cells and sucking the plant's sap. Within approximately six weeks, depending on temperature, the nymphs grow, molt and reach their four-winged adult stage. The adults live for one to two months.

Symptoms

Among the many possible causes of an orchid's failure to thrive, whitefly is a significant consideration. Although they are quite small and not necessarily immediately obvious, they can eventually kill a plant if left unchecked.

Signs of whitefly on orchids include weakened plants, damaged or unhealthy new growth, yellow mottled leaves that eventually drop, the presence of sooty mold or ants and, most especially, a cloud of tiny white insects arising from an affected plant when it is moved or disturbed.

Because the whitefly larvae feed on the plants' sap, plant vigor is

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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 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](#)

severely impacted. The honeydew (a sugary liquid) excreted by the larvae encourages growth of sooty mold, is unsightly and reduces the light available to the plant for photosynthesis, thus further weakening it. Ants are also attracted to this honeydew and will farm whitefly in much the same manner as they farm aphids.

Control A clean greenhouse or growing area will help to minimize potential insect pest problem. A minimum of two weeks' quarantining any new plant or cutting that enters the growing area can also help curtail the introduction of new pests and diseases.

Systemic insecticides (those that enter the plant cells and affect insects that consume any part of that plant) registered for use on orchids and deemed effective against whitefly include Diazinon, Malathion and Pyrethins. Some of the topical remedies labeled for use against whitefly and safe for orchids are Spectracide Houseplant and Garden Insect Spray 1 and Safer Insecticidal Soap. Enstar II Insect Growth Regulator may also be used against whitefly. It employs excess juvenile-growth hormones to cause sterile eggs in adult whiteflies and incomplete development of immature-growth stages. An added benefit in using Enstar is that insects do not develop a resistance to this treatment. It is also considered safe around humans and pets.

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

www.aos.org

MOTES ORCHIDS

Growing Orchids In March

February has been a dream for our orchids. With day temperature in the upper 70's and lower eighties and night temperatures in the sixties our plants have had nearly ideal swings of day to night temperatures that encourage both roots and flowers. Vandas have grown unabated and are rooting and spiking vigorously. Our sympodial orchids have benefited from the unusual lack of rain as cold fronts both failed to reach us or failed to stall over us as typically happens at least once or twice in February. The higher temperatures and drier air have yielded the rapid drying which all orchids crave. Our perpetual nemesis, snails have been slower to waken to their late winter marauding under these dry conditions but a light application of snail bait with the rains of the next passing front will be a wise move.



Motes Vanda

Thrips have found the daily high temperatures a little lower than they desire but have still managed to cause some mischief. As temperatures rise and the air continues to become drier the control methods outlined in Florida Orchid Growing will be called for. Mites, while enjoying the higher temperatures, have been thwarted somewhat by the higher humidity. As the air becomes drier and temperatures rise, mites will likely be especially problematic this year. The next passing front should lower temperatures below the 85F (30C) threshold at which application of oil (3Tbs. cooking oil per gal.) as a remedy for mites is still advised. This followed in 7-10 days by soap at 2 oz. per gal. should get our plants off to a mite free start to the growing season.

With this warm weather be sure to apply time release fertilizer early and liquid fertilizer as well.

Whilst March has come in like a lamb, it can yet still go out like a lion. Be sure that all your preparation for cold stay in place should one of the massive storms that are devastating the northern states force its way south to us.

From [Dr. Martin Motes](#)

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

Upcoming Meetings and Events

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

April 10, 2019 - Kristan Uthus, New World Orchids, "Miniatures: Honey I Shrunk the Orchids."

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

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

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*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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