

YOUR ORCHIDS IN THE SEPOS ORCHID SHOW - Keep It Simple!

It's easy, you just need nice plants. You've seen them on the show table. They don't have to be large, or covered in flowers, just colorful, healthy, clean plants. Here's all you need to know:

Decide which plants you could exhibit, clean them up ahead of time - make them presentable, please! (Ummm - - - ~ no bugs, diseases, slugs, snails, ants, weeds, ugly leaves or ugly flowers) Have them in a clean pot that won't tip over. Put your name on the bottom of the pot, this helps at tear-down!

Stake them, firmly, so the flowers present forward and usually slightly upwards - this is a judgment call, depending on the individual plant/ flowers. Use mechanical aids to help space the flowers - wire, cotton balls, etc.

Send your plant name list to your registrar. Look at the plant label. Be careful with the spelling!! (Google it!!) Make sure you note any AOS awards from the label. Send the list earlier rather than later. If a plant doesn't make it {too early or late blooming}, it's easier for us to delete a plant than add one later on in the process.

--On your list, you sometimes need to denote the flower color, flower size, plant size. (See the show schedule) This info is for your registrar, only if you don't class the plants yourself.

--On your list, you should have the plant parentage with each plant that is a hybrid. (See below) You may choose to have the registrar research the parentage.

--The more of this info you can supply, the easier it is - and the less time - for your registrar to spend researching.

Thank-you!! ----- Registrar Carol Baum, flederbachc@msn.com---

More of an achievement, is researching parentage and classing your plant. You can do it! Here's how:

Parentage (Grex name search) I don't have Orchid Wiz, so I use the RHS website. It's free, but it may not have everything. Go to: apps.rhs.org.uk/horticulturaldatabase/orchidregister/orchidresults.asp Enter the name on the label. You have to spell out the genus, or - skip genus and enter grex name (that is the first name - not in 'quotes'). Select search. You may have some choices for genus.

Example: SLC Jewel Box 'Dark Waters' (SLC = genus; Jewel Box = grex (or hybrid) : 'Dark Waters' = cultivar) If you enter *Sophrolaeliocattleya* and Jewel Box, you will not get a hit - because the genus has changed!! To make it simple, enter Jewel Box, only for the grex name. Select search. You will get 4 choices: Cattlianthe, Cymbidium, Dendrobium, Lycaste. The correct choice is easy for this one. Select Cattlianthe and you have the parentage: *Guarianthe aurantiaca* x *Cattleya Anzac* {1921}. (This plant is fairly simple. Sometimes you have to play around with spelling.)

Read the Show Schedule instructions, it is a great introduction! Then, **Read** the Show Schedule, at least the parts that pertain to your plants. You will learn about the ribbon judging classes.

Have your plant list and pull up a copy of the Show Schedule.

(Go to: SEPOS.org; Annual Show; Details -for Vendors/Exhibitors; Judging Classes -Ribbon Judging)

Easy! You know you have a *Cattleya Alliance* hybrid, A. - in the show schedule. It's red. Measure the width of the flower. If it is less than 3" - A.13 is the class; greater than 3" - A.20 is the class; if it is 3", choose either - A.13 or -A.20.

There are more difficult plants to class. If you need help, contact an experienced orchid show veteran!

----If you have the parentage on the label, but no grex name, search the RHS site here:

apps.rhs.org.uk/horticulturaldatabase/orchidregister/parentageresults.asp (You may have to play around with seed vs. pollen parents, spelling, partial searches, and think outside the usual entry!)