



Delray Beach Orchid Society

VOLUME 14 Issue 4

April, 2018

March Meeting
Annual Auction

Welcome

Message from Your President



Bill Thrall, our
auctioneer and
President

Hello DBOS members:

At this month we are privileged to have , Roy Tokunaga, H&R Nurseries, Hawaii , who will share his extensive knowledge on growing orchids with abundant blooms. His topic is: Flower Boosting; Orchids Culture and Fertilizer. Roy will be providing outstanding orchids direct from Hawaii for the raffle table and have a great selection of orchids for sale.

Our board members have been working to bring you the best speakers at the monthly meetings, as well as society events.

Thanks to all who attended our annual auction and the bidding was very lively for lovely orchids. The money we raised will be used for future DBOS events.



Lorna and Thomas



As always I hope to see you at this months meeting. Don't forget to bring in your blooming orchids, snacks and food in order to receive a ticket to win a free orchid. We will also be drawing tickets from last

months meeting since we had our annual orchid auction.

See you at our monthly meeting Wednesday, April 11th.

Doors open at 6:30 pm and meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Bill Thrall,
DBOS President



Dodie



Michele



Annette

WILL IT GROW
HERE?

Cymbidium

Pronunciation:
sim-BID-ee-um

Tribe: Cymbidieae
Subtribe: Cyrtopodiinae

Oriental species are renowned for their fragrance and subtle charm. Often they are grown in decorative deep pots as their root systems tend to grow down rather than branch. Most are terrestrial in their native habitat as well as semi-dormant over winter so they can take dry and cool temperatures at this time. Media can be quite complicated but we find they will also grow easily in traditional Cymbidium mixes to which a bit more perlite or some small pebbles are added.

Temperature:

1) Large flowered species from China and the Himalayas require a pronounced period of cool weather during the late summer and early fall such as coastal California to initiate flower spiking, maximum night temperatures of 53°F (12C).

2) Small flowered : terrestrial species from the Himalayas,



AOS CORNER

Aphids , By Susan Jones

Among the most common orchid pests, aphids are slow-moving, soft-bodied insects related to scale. Usually less than 1/8-inch long, greenish white or black, aphids have soft, pear-shaped bodies, long legs, antennae, and sucking mouthparts to feed on plant juices. Most are wingless, but winged versions appear to migrate between plants when a colony becomes crowded.



Symptoms

These insects are easy to spot. Their rapid reproduction and development quickly produces colonies, which feed on the parts of the plant receiving the most nutrients. They can be found on new growth, at the base of buds, on flowers and on the undersides of leaves. Their feeding causes poor growth, stunted plants or curled and distorted leaves.

Developing aphids shed white skins. A pile of them on upper leaf surfaces may be your first sign that these destructive insects have arrived.

Damage

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. Aphids' salivary secretions can also be toxic to their host plant.

Aphids eat more plant fluids than they can digest, excreting honeydew - a sweet, syrupy material - on leaves and stems. This attracts sooty mould, a fungus that grows in honeydew, making leaves look dirty and black. Ants are also drawn to honeydew; they feed on it, and will fiercely defend their source against predators. They will even farm aphids, moving them from plant to plant so that additional honeydew factories can be created. Traveling between plants, aphids can introduce and spread virus and disease.

Control

China and Japan do not require a substantial chilling period to bloom. These do well in cool to intermediate temperatures year round.

3) The small flowered tropical species require no chilling period and prefer to be warm year round.

Read more, [Click Here](#)

New Video on Growing Dendrobiums

How to grow dendrobiums from Martin Motes. [Watch here](#)

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, William Thrall, at 561-506-3371 or [e-mail](#).

If you have special event in your life or know of a member who is ill, please call our Corresponding Secretary, Thomas Johnson at 561-350-8451.

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.

Prevention is better than a cure; good cultural practices and purchasing healthy plants reduce the chance of infestation. The most common way of acquiring pests is buying an infested plant. Aphids easily colonize clean plants when they are grown close together, allowing movement from plant to plant. Winged aphids may colonize orchids that are outdoors, or indoors and in greenhouses where air currents from fans help spread the critters. To control the proliferation of aphids, immediately isolate an infested plant.

Fortunately, aphids are not difficult to eradicate. For any treatment method, repeat the procedure twice after the initial application at seven- to 10-day intervals to kill successive generations. Test any treatment on a small population of plants before widespread use.

To control aphids, one must also eliminate ants. Insecticides destroy the worker ants that move and protect aphids, but the colony must be eradicated for total control. Sugar-based ant baits are recommended, as ants that farm aphids prefer sugar over fats.

Printed by the AOS. Read the entire article [CLICK HERE](#):

ROY TOKUNAGA

DBOS is excited to have Roy speak at our April 11 meeting. He grew up on the beautiful island of Maui, in the Hawaiian Island chain. He left Maui for Honolulu, Oahu to attend the University of Hawaii. It was in the honors program, his favorite mentor, Dr. Yoneo Sagawa, introduced him to Orchids and the new emerging technology of Orchid seed germination and cloning. He eventually earned a Bachelors in Education, to teach biology. He was recruited to work at an Orchid cloning laboratory, E&R Orchids.



For seven years he honed skills in seed germination and cloning. In 1981, he partnered with Harry Akagi to start [H&R Nurseries](#) in Waimanalo, Hawaii on the island of Oahu. He is an accredited judge for the American Orchid Society as well as the Honolulu Orchid Society.

Today, he have been hybridizing, cloning, and germinating seeds for more than 40 years. H&R maintains a laboratory to do its seed germination and grows Orchids under two acres of shade houses. He has been refocusing H&R to excel in the culture of species as well as providing hybrids in the Dendrobium and Cattleya Alliance. His passion has been the proper nutrition of Orchids and the mythical flower booster

GROWING ORCHIDS IN APRIL
BY DR. MARTIN MOTES



V. garayi X V. ampullacea

This March has been perfect orchid growing weather. The drought which is punishing our lawns is suiting our orchids "just fine". The lack of rain has rendered the whole world a greenhouse where we are in control of the watering. This pattern seems likely to continue into April as the broad fronts continue to stall out over South Florida. Be sure that pots, medium and roots are saturated. Water heavily, with at least two applications to the point of run application. Vanda

roots will dry exceptionally quickly in the low humidity and drying winds of April. Be sure that they are overall dark green when you are finished watering. Now is a time when Vanda roots that have dried excessively behaving like a cork in a wine bottle; repelling not absorbing water. A third or even a fourth application spaced a few minutes apart may be necessary.

The dry air also means that heat is radiating out of the atmosphere rapidly at night. The wide swings of day to night temperatures that result stimulate vigorous root growth. If this is not evident or if the root tips are not elongating rapidly they are probably not getting enough water: water more thoroughly. As the temperatures rise higher later in the month, vandas frequently benefit from a second light watering in mid-afternoon.

Another cause of cessation of root growth is Thrips which are an ever-present threat in periods of extended drought. Use the methods recommended in Florida Orchid Growing to control them. Mites too relish drought. The exceptionally moderate temperatures we are experiencing allow us to control both mites and Thrips with the user-friendly spraying of oil followed by soap. Three tablespoons of cooking oil in a gal of water can be sprayed on a day when temperatures are expected below 86F(30C). Water thoroughly the day before. Keep the solution frequently agitated. Follow this spraying in 7-10 days with an application of liquid dishwashing soap at 4 Tbs. per gal. Again, be sure to water the day before spraying soap as it is dehydrating.

Remember, now is the ideal time to apply time release fertilizer. Nutriccoat, marketed as "Dynamite" is best. Lowe's sells a low phosphorus formulation for "Citrus and Avocados". Recommended formulations are also available from the merchants listed under "Sources" in Fla. Orchid Growing.

The great weather is a stimulus to spend time with our orchids and enjoy the abundance of spring bloom. Don't miss the moment!

[President, Motes Orchids](#)

Upcoming Meetings and Events

April 11: Roy Tokunaga , H&R Nurseries, Inc. Hawaii, Flower Boosting: Orchids Culture and Fertilizer

May 9th: Hands-on repotting workshop

June 13th: Norman Fang, Normans' Orchids, California

July 11th: Pot Luck Dinner and Movie Night

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Associate Vice President, Financial Advisor
Investment Management Consultant
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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

561-573-2360 or 561-638-9014

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