



Windward Orchid News

Published monthly by the Windward Orchid Society, Inc., a non-profit organization
P.O. Box 23, Kaneohe, HI 96744

Windward Orchid Society's Next Meeting is scheduled for
Wednesday, October 1, 2008
at 7:30 p.m. in the Benjamin Parker School Cafeteria

The Orchid Workshop with Scot Mitamura will start at 7:00 p.m.

Don't forget to bring your blooming plants to share with your fellow members.

“Catch of the Day”

Our featured speaker is Mr. Roy Tokunaga, a graduate from the University of Hawaii in 1973 with a bachelors in education (high school biology). Here's a secret (he never got a chance to teach), as he was recruited by Ernest Iwanaga to start an Orchid Lab. Roy spent my first 7 years cloning and germinating Orchids. In 1981, he left to start another Orchid Lab in Waimanalo with Harry Akagi. Harry was growing bromeliads at that time. He didn't care for the name H&R Orchids. He didn't like the name H&R Bromeliads, so H&R Nurseries was born. Currently, he is an accredited AOS and HOS judge and has been hybridizing for about 27 years with several thousand hybrids delivered. Most of his work has been in the Dendrobium and Cattleya Alliance. Roy has been working on nursery management and Orchid nutrition for the past 10 years and is searching for a blossom booster that works.

Tonight's program will be on the general culture Orchids using the plants that happen to be in flower. So the title “Catch of the Day” is used as a general catch all. Most of the program will be on fertilizer, potting, and cleanliness. He has found a blossom booster that really works. So, if you miss this meeting, you won't know what my secret “**Fountain of Youth**” formula is.

Message from your President

Aloha...The Holiday season is slowly coming upon us and it will certainly be another busy time. I would also like to encourage all of you to try and attend our Christmas Party on Dec 6. We will have entertainment, fun and lots of plants for auction as well as give away. Do not forget our auction night at our Nov. 5th meeting. We will need all of your support. The Honolulu Orchid Society show is the last show for the season. It is always a good thing to support all of the Orchid Societies out there anyway we possibly can. We at the Windward Society have always been real good about keeping that tradition alive. Our biggest event, our annual spring show next March will be here before (Con't on page 2)

WOS Officers

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Upcoming Events:

- ◆ Oct 1- Gen Mtg
- ◆ Oct 10 Honolulu Orchid Society's 68th Annual Orchid Show
- ◆ Oct. 11 Orchid Workshop at Dot's House
- ◆ Nov. 5 Gen Mtg & Silent Auction Nite

Con't - President's Message

you know it. We started planning for this show and we want to make this our biggest event ever. Every year it has been a huge challenge for us to make each show a success. If it was not for all the volunteers, this would not become a reality. Again we will need all of your support next year to help us out in every little way possible. I hope to see all of you at our next membership meeting.

Ahui hou
Dot Sakamoto
President WOS

69th Annual Honolulu Orchid Society's Show

The Honolulu Orchid Society's 'Orchid Holiday', is their 69th Annual Orchid Show and Plant Sale to be held on October 10-12, 2008 at the Lanakila Elementary School Cafeteria. This year's show chair is Dorothy Sakamoto. We will be setting up our display on October 9th and invite everyone to come and help. If you can't come to help and have blooming plants that you want to put in our display, please drop them off at Dorothy's house by 11:00 am on the 9th. If you can't come to set-up, you can come to help us break down the display at 4:00 pm on the 12th. Show hours are as follows: Friday, October 10th and Saturday, October 11th from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm and Sunday, October 12th from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

(Cut off and return)

Renewal ____

WOS Application

New Member ____

Mail to: Windward Orchid Society, Inc. P.O. Box 23, Kaneohe, HI 96744

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone No: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Date _____

Amount Enclosed

- Regular Membership (July 2008 to June 2009) \$20.00
- Regular and Associate (Spouse) Membership (July 2008 to June 2009) \$30.00
- Associate (Spouse) Membership (July 2008 to June 2009) \$10.00
- Lifetime Membership \$200.00

Paid by: ____ Check No. _____ Cash _____ Membership No. _____

Fertilizer Recommendations (By Roy Tokunaga)

Best Fertilizer is Technigro 13-2-13 or Peters 15-5-15 from Pacific Agriculture. 25lb bags. 3 lb bags are now available. In the summer, I recommend fertilizing once per week, at one Tsp per gallon. In the winter months, cut back to every other week. For every pound of solid soluble fertilizer, I recommend 1/4 cup Epson Salts (Magnesium Sulfate) (from Longs) dissolved into 20 gallons of water. Use green Gilmore sprayer, 20 gallon. Filter solution with fine sieve. Magnesium Sulfate (Epson Salts) cannot be mixed with any other fertilizer.

H&R Nurseries uses very little Nutricote. If you have Nutricote, these are the adjustments needed:

Nutricote 13-13-13 180 day slow release pellets

1. For every pound used, shoot 1/4 cup Calcium Nitrate with 20 gallons of water. Shoot separately 1/4 cup Magnesium sulfate (Epsom Salts) in 20 gal of water. Use Gilmore sprayer, green 20 gallon. Nutricote rate of use. Recommended usage: 5 prills per 2i pot, 10 - 15 prills per 4i pot.

2. Another way to balance Nutricote is to use Technigro 13-2-13, 1/4 cup per 20 gallons once per week in the summer. Shoot separately 1/4 cup Magnesium Sulfate in 20 gallons of water.

3. Once per year, you need to add Dolomite ag 10, one tsp per 4i pot, to keep ph in acceptable range, 5-6. Pacific Agriculture

If you are growing under plastic cover, be sure to flush all plants using sprinkler for 30 to 40 minutes once per month, summer only. This will keep total salts in media within acceptable levels.

Media Recommendations

All potting media must have these properties.

1. Aeration. Porous materials like perlite provide trapped air for the roots. Wet media does not rot roots directly. Lack of oxygen will drown roots and favor pathogens. Plastic pots have represented the most difficult challenge. Make sure fresh air can move up and down the pot with drain holes clear. If necessary, cut extra drain holes on bottom and sides.

2. Water holding capacity. Organic material like peat and sphagnum hold lots of water so the Orchid can absorb it over time. If the media is too dry, salt buildup and drought kills roots.

3. Fertilizer holding capacity. Organic material tend to hold fertilizer chemically so it is available to the plant over a period of time. Otherwise the fertilizer flushes out with the next irrigation.

4. pH range of 5.5 to 6.5. Most nutrients can be absorbed most efficiently in this pH range. The best organic additive is Pro Mix BX or Sunshine #1. They are commercial mixes with the pH adjusted to 6.0 for you for 6 months. They also provide the organic material for Fertilizer holding capacity you need. It also has a high water holding capacity.

Aggregate You need something solid, about 1/2 inch in diameter to provide solid support for the plant after the roots are established. Blue rock and bark are good choices.

Auction Nite
Wednesday, November 5, 2008

We'll be auctioning off orchid and non-orchid plants and in the past we've also had homemade goodies and crafts, cut flowers, vegetables, books, potting supplies, etc...

We will be accepting donations from members and are asking those members who sell plants at our General Membership meeting to donate plants for our Auction. Please family and friends to this once a year event!!

More information about the Auction Nite will follow in the next newsletter.

Mark your calendar!!

*****NEWS FLASH*****

Gary Peters, a WOS member is asking for assistance with his orchids. He is willing to pay a small fee, to anyone that is willing to help him maintain his orchids. If you are interested, please call Gary at 235—3046 or Dot Sakamoto at 236-4194.

Construction of your media.

For most home growers, medium to large bark is best. Styrofoam pieces on the bottom for aeration. Dolomite 10 AG is dusted on top to keep pH in acceptable range. Use 13-2-13 foliar fertilizer to help keep pH up.

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