



WOS Newsletter

A Windward Orchid Society Publication

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Back To Nature . . . Preserving The Species

Common species of orchids that once grew abundantly in the wild are slowly becoming rare or extinct. Everyday forests are being destroyed in the name of progress and development.

As an example, the once common *Cattleya skinneri*, the national flower of Costa Rica, is so rare in nature (although a standard in private collections), that it is now listed on Appendix I of CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species).

In the hobbyist arena, growers have become so accustomed to the more lavish and spectacular hybrids that they have little appreciation for species. Some consider them too ordinary and will not grow them. As a result formerly common species are gradually becoming the exotic variety of orchids. Registered orchid hybrids now outnumber orchid species by 3 to 1.

We live in an altered, artificial world because human nature dictates that we constantly strive to improve on nature. It is time that we stop to do some soul-searching and evaluate where we're going. It is well to remember that species have parented many fabulous hybrids over the years and this gene pool should not lapse into oblivion.

As a hobbyist, help to preserve the source species. Dedicate a portion of your collection to species plants.

(Note: Species--it's spelled with an "s" whether singular or plural--is a plant that naturally came from nature as opposed to a hybrid, which is a plant bred by man.)

M. Miyamoto Award To Be Established

The orchid world, and Hawaii in particular, has lost one of its finest figures when Masatoshi "Miya" Miyamoto passed away on April 22, 1991.

Miya's accomplishments in hybridizing made him internationally famous. Although he worked with dendrobiums, vandas and cattleyas, he is best known for his selective breeding techniques which produced intense colors of red, orange and yellow in the cattleya alliance. He introduced a whole new spectrum of vibrant colors heretofore unheard of in the orchid world.

Miya also created the finest *Vanda sanderiana* clones. His most famous orchid is known worldwide as *Laeliocattleya Waianae Sunset*, a red-flowered hybrid. While he is famous for his accomplishments with orchids, Miya is remembered by those who were privileged to know him personally as a kind and gentle man who always had time to share

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Invitation Extended To 69th Maui County Fair

The Maui Orchid Society and the Orchidland Committee of the 69th Maui County Fair have cordially extended an invitation to members of the Windward Orchid Society to view their orchid display at the War Memorial Gymnasium, Wailuku, Maui, from October 4-8, 1991.

In addition to the orchid show, there will be other exhibits and activities at the Maui County Fair for you to enjoy.

Beginners' Corner

Orchid Culture as a Hobby . . . by Ted Sumida

Most orchid genera are the easiest flowering plants to grow. Their cultural requirements are so cut-and-dried and well documented that raising orchids successfully is quite simple--even for the beginner. All it takes is a little practice. If you run into any problems, there are many books which can provide you with the necessary information to resolve them.

Orchid plants readily adapt themselves to the conditions you provide. There are many different kinds of orchids and none of us can hope to grow them all due to differing requirements. Select those that fit into the general climate in your area. However, due to the overlapping of temperature ranges, you will find that you can successfully grow many different genera together.

Although the flowers may seem to be delicate and fragile, orchid plants are actually quite hardy and can withstand some neglect for a short period of time without loss of vitality.

It is best to grow orchids under partial shade in areas with good ventilation until you know which plants require more sun.



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Potting Media

Orchid plants can be grown in most natural or artificial materials that provide good moisture retention, aeration and drainage, such as hapuu fibers or chunks, fir bark, peat moss, sphagnum moss, gravel, cinders, perlite, or rock wool. Do not use soil. Gravel and cinders should be graded and washed.

Watering

Watering is not an exact science. It can only be learned through experience. As a rule, when in doubt, water thoroughly two times a week. Keep it moist but not soggy.

Fertilizing

Fertilizing is a must in order to produce healthy plants and flowers. Do not overfertilize. Overfertilizing will harm your root system which is a very important part of your plants. Use both foliar and soluble fertilizers for optimum growth.

Pests

Orchids are relatively pest free. For a small collection of plants, it is convenient to use ready mixed insect sprays available in garden shops. Most of these insecticides are safe to use without causing any adverse effects to you and the environment. Buy your fertilizers and insecticides in as small a quantity as possible. Do not overstock as the shelf life of these products are limited. Ask your garden shop people for advice.

Suggested Media

The following are sample media mixes which have been found economical and ideal for growing most orchid plants in Hawaii.

a. For Seedlings

- 5 parts fine orchid fir bark
- 1 part pea gravel (blue rock)
- 1 part fine perlite or Sponge Rok

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General Culture Chart

The following culture chart indicates the ideal growing conditions for the listed orchids. Many will grow somewhat outside the ideal. Use it as a general guide. Some genera such as paphiopedilums run the gamut from cool growing to warm growing. Find out as much as you can about the plant that you acquire.

	Light	Temp.	Water		Light	Temp.	Water
Ascocenda (Ascda.)	B	I-W	M	Laelia (L.)	B	I	D
Ascocentrum (Asctm.)	B	I-W	M	Lycaste (Lyc.)	S	I-C	M
Brassavola (B.)	B	I	M	Masdevalia (Masd.)	S	C	M
Brassia (Brs.)	M	I	D	Miltoniodes (Mtda.)	S	C	M
Brassolaelia (Bl.)	B	I	D	Nakamotoara (Nak.)	B	I-W	M
Broughtonia (Bro.)	B	I	D	Paphiopedilum (Paph.)	M	C-W	M
* Catasetum (Ctsm.)	M	I	M	Phalaenopsis (Phal.)	M	I	M
Cattleya (C.)	M	I	D	Renantanda (Rntda.)	B	I-W	M
Cattleytonia (Ctna.)	B	I	D	Renanthopsis	M	I	M
Coelogyne (Coel.)	M	W	D	Rhynchostylis (Rhy.)	B	I-W	M
* Dendrobium (Den.)	B	I-W	D	Rhynchovanda (Rhv.)	B	I	M
Dendrochilum	S	I	M	Sophranitis (Soph.)	S	C	M
Dialaelia (Dial.)	M	I	D	Vanda (V.)	B	W	M
Epicattleya (Epc.)	B	I	D	Vandaenopsis (Vdnps.)	M	I-W	M
Epidendrum (Epi.)	B	I	D	Vanilla	B	I	M
Kagawara (Kgw.)	B	I-W	M	Zygopetalum (Z.)	M	I-C	M

KEY:

LIGHT REQUIREMENTS

"B" Bright
 "M" Moderate
 "S" Shady

TEMPERATURE

"W" Warm
 "I" Intermediate
 "C" Cool

WATERING

"M" Keep moist
 "D" Dry out between waterings

* Grow Den. nobile hybrids warm during the summer and fall. When growth is mature, grow them cool and withhold water until growth resumes in the spring. Reduce light to moderate intensity while buds are developing. For other deciduous types, such as Catasetums and Den. parishii, entirely withhold water and fertilizer from the time the leaves begin to fall until new growth from the base is 2 inches tall.

SOURCE: Rod McClellan Co.
 South San Francisco, California

"Miya" Miyamoto

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his expertise with friends no matter how busy he was.

In honor of Masatoshi Miyamoto, the Hawaii Regional Judging Center, in cooperation with the American Orchid Society, is establishing an annual Masatoshi "Miya" Miyamoto Award for the most outstanding cattleya in the cattleya alliance, either species or hybrid. It is a singular honor for Hawaii to have a national award named after a native son.

Donations to this award program is being solicited and will be greatly appreciated. Please make checks payable to "M. Miyamoto Award" and send to: Elizabeth Lee, 643-A N. Kuakini Street, Honolulu, HI 96817.

Orchid Culture As A Hobby

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- b. For Large to Blooming Plants
 - 5 parts medium orchid fir bark
 - 1 part coarse peat moss
 - 1 part medium or coarse SpongeRok
 - 1 part #3 fine gravel (blue rock)

Remember to wash your gravel before using. For best results hapuu fibers and chunks and sphagnum moss should be used alone and not mixed with other materials.

As a general rule of thumb, repotting should be done every 2 years or when your media starts to decay. Repot before your plants start to deteriorate.

Orchid Abbreviations

Here are more abbreviations to add to your personal file. As you expand your collection, you will encounter more and more exotic names. Keeping your file current will enable you to refer to your own glossary for quick reference.

Aergs	- Aerangis
Angcm	- Angraecum
Arnth	- Aranthera
Ascgm	- Ascoglossum
Astcm	- Ascocentrum
Bc	- Brassocattleya
Bl	- Brassolaelia
Blc	- Brassolaeliacattleya
Cirr	- Cirrhopetalum
Ctps	- Cattleyopsis
Ctsm	- Catasetum
Diacm	- Diacrium
Dor	- Doritis
Epc	- Epicattleya (Epicat)
Eptn	- Epitonia
Lc	- Leiliocattleya
Lyc	- Lycaste
Mtda	- Miltoniodes
Mtdm	- Miltonidium
Odtm	- Odontonia
Rhctm	- Rhyncocentrum
Rhnps	- Rhynchonopsis
Rnctm	- Renancentrum
Rnst	- Renanstylis
Slcc	- Sophrolaeliocattleya
Spa	- Spathoglottis
Trctm	- Trichocentrum
Thu	- Thunia
Vasco	- Vascostylis
Vcm	- Vandaceum
Vdts	- Vandoritisk



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