



CLUB NEWS



Tomas Bajza

June Meeting

by Janis Croft

Welcome and Thanks.

Tom Sullivan opened the meeting at 6:50 pm with 53 attendees and asked all in attendance to sing Happy Big Birthday to John Evans. He then thanked Julie, Paul, Dottie, Dianne and Christie for the treats and reminded all to "Drop a Dollar" to cover supply costs. Bring any plants of concern to the next potting clinic at SE Branch

Library on July 6.

Club Business. Linda welcomed our guests, new members Jacob Moss and Mel Van Niekerk, and returning members Lucinda Winn and Dwayne Wynne. Linda asked the June birthday celebrants to raise their hands for their free raffle ticket. If you know of anyone in need of a cheering up or a get-well card, let her know by emailing her at info@staugorchidsociety.org.

Members Choice Voting. Christine asked members to vote for their favorite blooming orchid on the show table. The ballots should be dropped in the ballot box before the speaker program begins.

Virtual Show Table. Sue announced that the virtual show table will be held on June 13th, featuring guest star Dave Off of Waldor Orchids, and she will send out an email invitation to members.

Supplies. Supplies for growing orchids were available at the back table. Preorder ahead of time at info@staugorchidsociety.org.

Library. – Librarian Howard Cushnir brought in Miniature Orchids and Florida Orchid Growing. If you would like a book or magazine from the Library list on the website, send Howard a request to info@staugorchidsociety.org and he will bring the item(s) to the next meeting.



Show Table Review. Steve Hawkins started the review with a beautiful Miltoniopsis hybrid. There was a nicely bloomed *Oncidium Sharry Baby*, along with a cute Phalaenopsis and a not too smelly *Bulbophyllum Jersey*. A gorgeous *Brassavola appendiculata* was growing and blooming well on the outside of a pot. He then held up a quite large *Leptotes bicolor* that was mounted so the flowers hung down in a nice array among its semiterete (pencil like) leaves. The classic *Laelia purpurata* which blooms in May/June here was next followed by the pink variety *carnea* which has an anise fragrance. Several miniature cattleyas were in bloom including the Lc. Mini Purple. The purplish Dick Phippen SunCoast was striking with its spotted lip. The *Encyclia Ruffly Profuse* had numerous yellow flowers on very tall inflorescences



SAOS Program. Sue introduced our guest speaker from Miami, Tomas Bajza of Tarzane Orchids, whose talk was on "Miniature Orchids." His sales table was filled with well over 75 miniature orchids, all mounted, and supplies for growing including glass orbs and terrarium containers as well as "live" Sphagnum moss

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Upcoming Orchid Events

June

- 8 Florida North-Central AOS Judging, 1 pm
Clermont Judging Ctr, 849 West Ave.
- 11 JOS Meeting, Encyclias, 6:30 pm
Bill Nunez, Orchid Hobbyist
- 13 SAOS Virtual Show Table, 7:00 pm
Special Guest Dave Off, Waldor Orchids
Invitation Will be Sent by Email

July

- 2 SAOS Meeting, 6:30 pm
Bulbophyllums
Julien Baruch, Krull Smith Orchids
- 6 SAOS Repotting Clinic, 10 am til noon
Southeast Branch Library
6670 US-1 N, 32086
- 9 JOS Meeting, Topic TBA, 6:30 pm
Speaker TBA
- 11 SAOS Virtual Show Table, 7:00 pm
Courtney Zooms into Cyberspace
An Invitation Will be Sent by Email
- 13 Florida North-Central AOS Judging, 1 pm
Clermont Judging Ctr, 849 West Ave.

August

- 3 SAOS Repotting Clinic, 10 am til noon
Southeast Branch Library
6670 US-1 N, 32086
- 6 SAOS Meeting, 6:30 pm
To Mount or Not to Mount
Thanh Nguyen, Springwater Orchids
- 8 SAOS Virtual Show Table, 7:00 pm
Courtney Zooms into Cyberspace
An Invitation Will be Sent by Email
- 10 Florida North-Central AOS Judging, 1 pm
Clermont Judging Ctr, 849 West Ave.
- 13 JOS Meeting, Orchid Culture, 6:30 pm
Ron McHatton, AOS
- 16-17 Int'l Phalaenopsis Alliance Symposium
Apopka

September

- 3 SAOS Meeting, 6:30 pm
Becoming an 80 Percentile Grower
Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids
- 7 SAOS Repotting Clinic, 10 am til noon
Southeast Branch Library
6670 US-1 N, 32086
- 10 JOS Meeting, Topic TBA
Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids
- 12 SAOS Virtual Show Table, 7:00 pm
Courtney Zooms into Cyberspace
An Invitation Will be Sent by Email
- 14-15 Fall JOS Orchid Festival
Mandarin Garden Club, Jax 32223
- 14 Florida North-Central AOS Judging, 10 am
Clermont Judging Ctr, 849 West Ave.

St. Augustine Orchid Society Organization

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Tomas started his talk by recounting when he first arrived in Miami and lived in a condo. He tried growing his regular orchid collection but soon ran out of space. At the same time, he became fascinated with plants grown in vivariums, terrariums, wardian cases and paludarium containers. These would work in his condo space if he would start growing smaller orchids. So, he ordered his first miniature, the *Lepanthesis astrophora*. It arrived in the smallest possible USPS box and he couldn't believe there were two plants inside. After dumping the contents, he found two small pots with the plants, each having 5 leaves only and not bigger than one inch. He then held up that plant that is now larger and blooms for him all year long.

Tomas began to purchase and experiment with growing small orchids. He classifies his plants into three categories, Micro (under 2.5"), Miniature (2.5"+) and Small orchids (5"-6"). He now can also grow on his balcony since he only mists the plants to avoid water leaking on the balconies below him. When temperatures drop below 50, he either covers or moves them inside. In the heat of the summer, many miniatures like more water and shadier conditions.

Inside he grows in Sezam XL Tropic minigreenhouses and also uses SunBlaster High Output 36-LED 6400K 18W Strip lights in other areas. For the glass orbs, which are readily found in hobby stores, he likes to use live moss as a base because it never goes bad. He also recommended water beads on the bottom for holding moisture. Tomas also uses plastic boxes for growing. He hangs plastic chains from the top edge and then hooks the mounted plants onto the chains in order of preferred humidity. More humid, moist preferring plants near the bottom and the ones that prefer drying off near the top. For circulation, he uses his air conditioner overall and as needed, small aquarium fans in tighter areas.

As for mounting, he showed examples of miniatures mounted together on a Fukian Bonsai tree and Cholla wood, both of which present the plants well. He suggests using Rockwool which is great for the orchids because it holds moisture like sphagnum moss but doesn't become too acidic like sphagnum moss can. He then held up one plant that he has only watered 5 times this year because the Rockwool holds the water so well. Another favorite is wine cork for the micro varieties. The sulfur from the wine is liked by the orchids. Hygrolon growth fabric can be bought in sheets and used in place of moss because it never degrades. Tomas suggested using one mm elastic cord/rope to attach the plant to the mount. This way as the small plant grows, the elastic expands with it and doesn't cut into the plant. Once the roots are established to the mount, he then removes the cord.

Tomas said he is always asked how to fertilize and water the miniatures. He recommends you use only a pure water like reverse osmosis or rainwater because many of these miniatures are cloud forest plants that cannot tolerate the salts present in our well and tap water. He recommended the following products:

- Technaflora MagiCal - Magnesium & Calcium
- Technaflora Sugar Daddy - Magnesium & Sulfur
- Growmore Seaweed Extract
- Repotme / Tezula MSU Fertilizer, 13-3-15 Tap/Rain/RO
- Greatwhite Mycorrhizae

On his website, Tarzanegroup.com, he also has growing sheets for all the plants he sells which provides advice on each one's watering needs. He ended his presentation with many slides of his orchids, and discussing unique qualities of each.

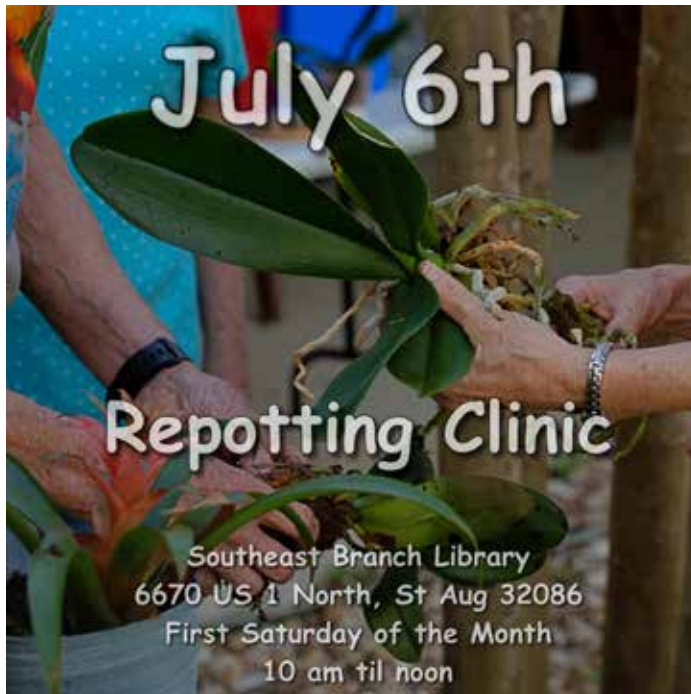


Meeting Conclusion

The Members Choice went to Steve Hawkins for his Encyclia Ruffly Profuse. The evening concluded with the Raffle table. Thanks to the helpful hands that stayed to help clean and store the tables, chairs and room.



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Culture Notes

June in St. Augustine

Summer has arrived, and with it the heat and humidity. You'll find your pots dry out more slowly in our humid summers, so you actually water less than during spring. Keep applying dilute water soluble fertilizer regularly, or top dress with a timed release fertilizer.

Finish repotting your orchids this month, except possibly for those bifoliate cattleyas that like to root while still in bloom. Repot your spring blooming phals by Independence Day, even if it means you have to cut the flower stems and enjoy them in a vase. July and August are stressful times for our orchids, and unless absolutely necessary, repotting should wait until the fall growth spurt.

American Orchid Society Corner

Webinars

June 5, 8:30 pm

Greenhouse Chat - Ron McHatton

June 11, 8:30 pm AOS Members Only

Species ID Task Force – Art Pinkers

Orchids Magazine this Month

Habenarias – Nicholas Rust

Cycnoches – Charles Wilson

Repot Your Plants – Ray Barkalow

[Photos of Latest AOS Awards](#)

July 2 Meeting

Bulbophyllums, Julien Baruch

Julien will talk to us about bulbophyllums, those unusual orchids with a hinged lip. He will discuss different species and hybrids of these popular oddities. The Krull Smith collection includes Bill Thoms' plants in addition to their hybrids, so get ready to bring some home!

Julien Baruch has grown orchids his whole life but really took the plunge seven years ago. Julien interned at Fairchild



Tropical Botanic Gardens for The Million Orchid Project before moving to Apopka to work at Krull-Smith where he manages their social media and sales. He has been learning from Frank Smith and working on the nursery's hybridizing program with him. He is an avid orchid lover of all types - species and hybrids alike.

When: Tuesday, July 2, 6:30 til 9 pm

Where: Memorial Lutheran Church
3375 US 1 South, St. Aug 32086



INSPIRATION



Aerides odorata

© Terry Botto



CULTIVATION

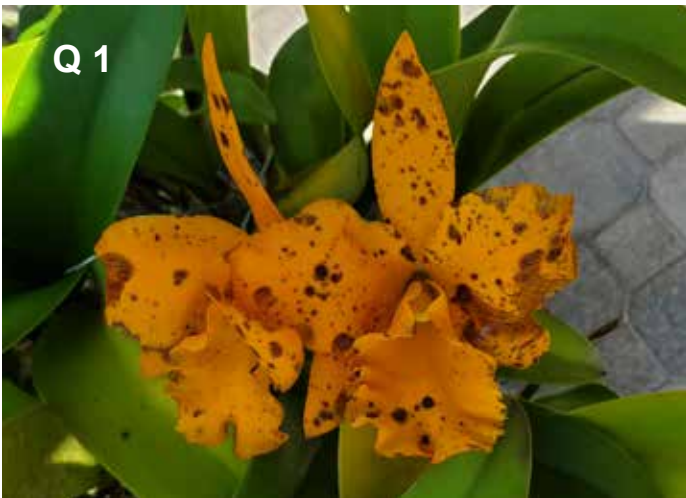


Orchid Questions & Answers

by Sue Bottom,
sbottom15@hotmail.com

Q1. Is this botrytis on my cattleya? The spots spread rapidly and are sunken.

A2. It may be a botrytis fungal infection, but it seems like the splotches are too big unless it's been there for a while. With it happening fast, perhaps it's more likely that it is bacterial rather than fungal blighting. Your reaction, cutting off all the flowers and disposing of them, and then a follow up copper spray should take care of the problem.

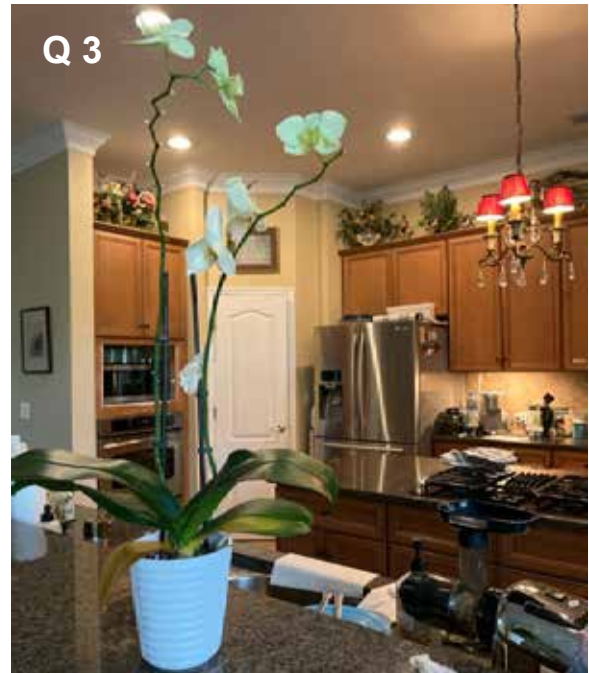


Q2. I read *Miltonia spectabilis* var. *moreliana* grows well in baskets but I don't seem to be growing this one very well. I've had it 2.5 years and no blooms. Should I take it out of the basket? It looks very yellow to me.



A2. It should do better in a basket than in a pot. It really likes is to grow around the outside of a pot rather than in a pot, so the basket should work well for you. Don't disturb it while it is growing so well. I think it's just got to get a little older. It is a fall bloomer, so maybe you'll get a bud or three this year. It looks like it's getting plenty of light, no problem there. You can always add time release fertilizer to your plants in the spring if you don't have the time or inclination to use water soluble fertilizers. Be patient, you will be rewarded soon.

Q3. Within one week, this orchid which I purchased about 2 months ago, has dropped most of its blooms and gotten one yellow leaf. Is this normal?



A3. That's pretty normal. You can usually expect a phal to bloom for three months, sometimes longer. You don't know how long it was in bloom before you bought it. Now is the time to cut back the bloom spike and think about repotting it, if it needs repotting, so it can recover from the transplant shock and start gathering its strength for next year's blooms.



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Home Remedies

by Dr. Courtney Hackney

There are many products available today for orchid growing, most far more expensive than necessary. Hobbyists usually just pay the price since they have only a few plants. As your collection gets larger or you wish to be more frugal there are many ways to reduce the

cost of your hobby.

Many hobbyists got started when presented with a gift of an orchid and are still in the early stages of learning to grow. Many of the big-box stores get a regular supply of orchids, which are sold as pot plants. Some orchids do not sell and go out of bloom. These are either tossed or placed on a sales table at a reduced price. Caution should be exercised when purchasing these orchids, but some bargains can be found. Inexpensive orchids also make great plants on which to experiment. Learn to repot using these orchids. Try different media and pots. All of these “experiments” will teach you to be a better grower and make you more confident when you purchase an orchid that you really like. Most hobbyists err in the beginning because they are afraid to damage a newly purchased orchid so they do nothing when a problem develops.

Fertilizer is a classic example of the concept that excellent orchids do not require the most expensive products. One of my favorite growers that proved the concept was the late Ralph Wasdon from Greenville, NC. He used K Mart soluble fertilizer and grew orchids as well as anyone I ever met. When asked to speak about his prowess in growing orchids he always replied that it only took five minutes to explain his methods; water when needed, fertilize when you remember, and put your plants under the pines when it was warm enough.

Practical wisdom is often overlooked when growing “exotic” orchids in favor of the elaborate and expensive. Powdered cinnamon is a very effective



fungicide applied directly to the wound. Many growers buy cinnamon powder by the bag and sprinkle it over roots and rhizome just before placing a newly repotted orchid in a new pot. This non-toxic and relatively inexpensive fungicide has the added benefit of a nice fragrance.

Another simple, and amazingly effective, anti-bacterial/anti fungal agent is Hydrogen Peroxide. It is available everywhere for topical use. Joe Grezaffi introduced me to its use. Whenever he saw crown rot in a phal or rot on a cattleya he poured hydrogen peroxide right in the crown or damaged area. For awhile, I used half strength, but found that there was never any damage from using it full strength. It even stops pseudomonas rot on phal leaves that I once cut off entirely when I saw just a small rot spot.

One of the most significant changes in fertilizer for orchids is the availability of a slow release fertilizer named Nutricote. This product is being used by many commercial orchid nurseries, but is even more important to the hobbyist who has just a small number of orchids. Available as Dynamite in small quantities from Home Depot stores, this is an easy to use fertilizer that delivers a constant supply of nutrients for a set amount of time. Most last for six months and provide micronutrients as well.

Note: Dr. Courtney Hackney wrote a monthly column of his orchid growing tips for about 20 years; we are reprinting some you might have missed, this one from June 2009.



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Among the smaller growing vandaceous orchids is *Neofinetia falcata*. A well-grown plant specimen such as this 'Rain-No-Hikari' cultivar can bear scads of flowers. Grower: Joanne Stygles, Photo: Terry Bottom

Small Wonders

Tempting Choices to Grow with Limited Space
by Ken Slump, courtesy of the AOS

Many popular orchid species and their hybrids eventually grow to become sizeable plants. While a specimen-size standard cattleya or angraecum in flower is often a breathtaking sight, many growers find it difficult to allow space for more than a few of those. Fortunately, there are many equally showy, if smaller alternatives that are ideal for those who have limited space.

CATTLEYA CLAN. Most refer to the smaller-sized *Cattleya* alliance hybrids as mini-catts. Even among these, there is a considerable range of plant size, although most growers would agree that any plant with pseudobulbs and leaves totaling about 12 inches or less in length would qualify. Some mini-catts, however, are considerably smaller.

Some of the miniature species in the genus *Cattleya* would make ideal candidates for the species grower who lacks room for a specimen that requires several cubic feet of space when mature. Possibilities include *Cattleya walkeriana*, *Cattleya luteola*, *Cattleya aclandiae* and *Cattleya forbesii*. Many regard the species *C. luteola* and *C. forbesii* as among the least showy members of the genus. Their flowers are often greenish, straw-colored or pale yellow and lack broad segments; the lips are rather tubular. Yet both arguably possess a fair amount of species charm and can develop into fine specimens.

Cattleya walkeriana, on the other hand, has rather large flowers for the size of plant and is showy when in flower. The pale green or yellowish sepals and petals of *C. aclandiae* are often spotted or blotched with a dark reddish brown, while the lip is typically a contrasting rose-purple, offering an undeniable touch of the exotic. All of these species come from South America and the species *C. walkeriana*, *C. aclandiae* and *C. forbesii* are notably fragrant.

Other familiar and popular species in the *Cattleya* alliance are of small stature, although a number of them have been reclassified and renamed in recent years. One such example is *Laelia pumila*. This miniature Brazilian species has undeniably showy lavender flowers. Blossoms of fiery red or orange are produced by its familiar and now close relative, *Sophrontis coccinea*,

another popular miniature species.

An example of a smaller *Cattleya* alliance species that is perhaps less frequently encountered and cultivated would be *Broughtonia sanguinea*. It is worthwhile, if a bit fussy about its growing conditions, and has contributed to some important mini-catt hybrids.

While the length of the leaves and pseudobulbs of some *Brassavola* species may exceed the 1-foot limit for mini-catt status, some, such as *Brassavola nodosa*, often do not. The compact habit and floriferous nature of this genus have made them popular with some mini-catt breeders who appreciate their starry floral forms and their aptitude for frequent floral display.

These, and other *Cattleya* alliance species could provide plenty of opportunities and challenge for the orchid grower looking to produce a dramatic specimen plant in a small space, but for many growers, mini-catt hybrids is where the action is. You can find hybrid plants of small stature with the typical Lc. (*Laeliocattleya*) and Blc. (*Brassolaeliocattleya*) abbreviations on them, although in some cases the changes in nomenclature have made them obsolete. Look also to hybrid genera such as *Cattleytonia*, *Stellamizutaara*, *Hawkinsara*, *Otaara* and *Potinara* for additional possibilities.

There have been many popular mini-catt hybrids in recent years. Just a few from the recent post, listed here with their taxonomic names and parentage that were in use at the time they were registered, include *Cattleytonia* Why Not (*C. aurantiaca* x *Bro. sanguinea*), *Sophrhlaeliocattleya*

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Cattleytonia Why Not 'Roundabout' AM/AOS
Grower: Dick Roth, Photo: Terry Bottom

Pink Doll (*Slc. Tangerine Jewel* x *L. pumila*), *Soprocattleya* Beaufort (*S. coccinea* x *C. luteola*), *Laeliocattleya* Love Knot (*L. sincorana* x *C. walkeriana*), *Laeliocattleya* Mini Purple (*L. pumila* x *C. walkeriana*) and *Otaara Hidden Gold* (*Ctna. Why Not* x *Bl. Richard Mueller*).

One *Cattleya* alliance species that deserves a spot in any collection of miniature orchids is *Leptotes bicolor*. Its starry little flowers are greenish to creamy white, usually with a pale to darker purple lip, giving the blossoms the intrigue of a diminutive semi-alba *cattleya*. A specimen sized *Leptotes bicolor* is space efficient.

The genus *Encyclia* comprise a particularly varied and interesting group. Two worth including in this discussion are the handsome species *Encyclia vitellina* and *Encyclia mariae*, both of which are also placed in the genus *Prosthechea*. *Encyclia vitellina* produces an inflorescence that carries from several to more than a dozen fiery orange-red flowers. The flower's narrow lip is yellow. The plant is rather easy to grow if your conditions are not too warm and you heed its need for a dry winter rest. Similar, if perhaps drier conditions, suit *Encyclia mariae* as well. *Encyclia mariae* also produces a unique flower that typically has pure green sepals and petals with recurved tips. The flower's most distinctive feature is its disproportionately large frilly white lip that enfolds the column. Both species are uniquely beautiful within the orchid world.

If you favor the species look and orchid flowers with unique character, *Noelehmannia porpax* (syn. *Epidendrum porpax* and *peperomia*) is sure to please. This miniature orchid has a creeping habit with freely branching stems that rather quickly cover the surface of the pot or mount on which it is grown. In summer or autumn, the flowers are produced at the tips of the stems. The brown and green

lip is rather tear-shaped and has narrow sepals and petals attached. While a plant in full bloom may appear to harbor a congregation of beetles, the application of a fly swatter will yield little more than cuttings of the plant for your friends.

VANDA RELATIVES. Of course, there are many worthy orchids of small-stature beyond the boundaries of the *Cattleya* alliance. If you enjoy the floral style and intoxicating evening fragrance of the African *Angraecoid* orchids, but do not have room for a specimen plant of *Angraecum sesquipedale*, the diminutive relative *Neofinetia falcata* may be perfect for you. This charming miniature comes from the somewhat cooler areas of Japan and the nearby region. It typically blooms in spring or summer with small inflorescences that carry up to seven white flowers. Each fragrant flower possesses a long curved spur.

The range of vivid colors available combined with the wow factor of a well-grown vanda or ascocenda is hard to top. However, some smaller orchids of this type will occupy



Many plants of *Ascocentrum miniatum* in cultivation are correctly identified as *Ascocentrum garayi*. This compact epiphyte with sprawling stems makes an ideal candidate for growing in a wood-slat basket.
Grown and photographed by Leslie Brickell

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Leptotes pohlitniocoi Grown and photographed by Linda Stewart

considerably less space in your growing area than will their standard-sized cousins. *Ascocentrum miniatum* is perhaps the easiest to grow of the *Ascocentrum* species; many plants in cultivation labeled as *Asctm. miniatum* are really *Ascocentrum garayi*.

If it is the bluish-colored vanda you favor, look for the primary hybrid *Neostylis* Lou Sneary (*Neof. falcata* x *Rhy. coelestis*). While you will not find flowers the vivid hue seen in *Vanda coerulea*, many cultivars have a lilac or blue-lavender tone that is often sought in orchids and the plants maintain a very manageable size.

Indeed, the Vanda alliance seems to include a number of showy, yet compact orchid species. A favorite is *Sedirea japonica*, the only species in its genus. The waxy white flowers are typically accented with bands or markings of pale rose on the lip and lateral sepals. They have a pleasant fragrance too.

Yet another Vandaceous genus, *Aerangis*, features quite a number of attractive dwarf species. Many of them are tolerant of low light situations but require high humidity to thrive. Among them, *Aerangis luteoalba*, is perhaps the showiest. The plant's white flowers are usually perfectly aligned on an arching inflorescence, each blossom brightly accented with a red column.

It is interesting to note that quite a few of the smaller-growing orchids are tolerant of shadier conditions than are their bigger cousins. But after some consideration, it seems logical that small plants would not typically occupy harsh, exposed locations. Smaller orchids, however, often require higher humidity levels and careful attention to their watering needs compared with larger types.

DENDROBIUMS. The genus *Dendrobium* is among the most diverse in the orchid family. Some types produce plants that are quite vigorous and sizeable, but a fair number of species and hybrids maintain a manageable mass as well. One of the most compact, yet floriferous, is the cool-growing New Guinea species *Dendrobium cuthbertsonii*. Well grown and flowered examples of the species often seem to produce more floral tissue than foliage. The flowers are long lasting and showy. Reddish hues predominate, but a rainbow of warm shades from yellow and orange to purple, as well as bicolored blossoms, can be found.

MORE CHOICES. For a rather different sort of small orchid, in foliage, form and flower, look to *Stenoglottis longifolia*. This South African native is a

terrestrial species that forms rosettes of long, thin leaves. It flowers in autumn, producing a tall spike with dozens of small, lilac-pink flowers with darker spots. The flowers open successively, from the bottom of the spike toward the tip. The flower's lip is elongated and includes several deep, pointed lobes, resembling the tail of a comet. Moderate light, cool to intermediate temperatures and moderate to high humidity levels make it thrive.

Many of the species in the genus *Dendrochilum* have such narrow leaves that they often appear to the casual observer to be grasses. The flower spikes, in many cases, do little to dispel this image. While the leaves and plant size of *Dendrochilum wenzelii* are not the shortest or most compact within the genus, they are far from the largest. This species has some of the most colorful flowers in the genus with its dense arching spikes of small red blossoms.

A final suggestion for the collector of exotic miniature orchids is *Promenaea xanthina*. The plants are small and each inflorescence produces but one or two bright yellow flowers. Happily, the blossoms are fragrant and long lasting, and the Brazilian native is said to be of easy culture.

The quest for interesting small orchids may lead you much further than these few suggestions. For some, the most fascinating orchids require a hand lens to fully appreciate their wonders. Fortunately for those with limited space, orchids are as diverse in their size as they are in their flowers.

This article appeared in the American Orchid Society Orchids magazine in April 2007 (Vol.76:4, pp.258-263).



CULTIVATION

The Species Behind Standard Cattleyas by Don Herman



Cattleya gaskelliana var. *coerulea* grown by Sue Bottom, photo by Terry Bottom

Cattleya gaskelliana is native to northeastern Venezuela and was first introduced at the Stevens Auction in London in 1883. It was named for Holbrook Gaskell, a hobbyist and collector who had a fine collection near Liverpool. This species occurs in many forms, including lavender, semi-alba, alba and coerulea. The lip is usually the same color as the rest of the flower and the throat has orange markings. The lip has a closed trumpet quality that many find desirable. In hybridizing, its late spring and early summer flowering time and its vigorous growth habit are primary considerations. Flowers are usually fairly large. Historically, it has been used successfully in the breeding of blues. There is also an important line of whites using *C. gaskelliana*. Unfortunately, hybridizers have not used it much in recent years, but much potential is present for future work.

Cattleya labiata was discovered in 1818 by William Swainson north of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Soon it was no

longer found in the Organ Mountains, its supposed source, and it remained lost to the many collectors who searched for this "King of Cattleyas" for more than 50 years. The original plant, as the story is sometimes told, was used as packing material for other specimens. William Cattley, an English horticulturist, flowered it first and the botanist John Lindley named the genus after his friend and benefactor Cattley. It was described in *Collectanea Botánica* in 1821 and is the type for the genus. The labiata part of the name is in reference to its large and showy lip. A variety of forms such as the alba, semi-alba, lavender and coerulea exist. It flowers in the autumn and is in the bloodline of almost all dark-purple-flowered hybrids. The flower's color, form, fragrance and showy lip make *C. labiata* desirable to the hybridizer, as do its size and vigorous growth habit. Hybridizers do not like the long rhizome habit of this species that causes the plants to outgrow their container too quickly.

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Cattleya labiata 'Figuro' HCC/AOS
Grown and photographed by Leslie Brickell



Cattleya gaskelliana var. *alba* grown and photographed
by Jimmy Broussard



Cattleya lueddemanniana 'Crownfox Goliath' FCC/AOS
Grown and photographed by Allen Black



Lc. (syn. *C.*) *Lustre* (1907) 'Westonbirt' (*Callistoglossa* x *lueddemanniana*)
grown and photographed by Keith Davis

Cattleya lueddemanniana was first described by Reichenbach in 1854 from a plant that he had seen in a private collection in France. The plant was named after a Mr. Lueddemann, a skilled gardener of the owner. It was also found in 1863 in a collection in Scotland under a different name. It is found along the coast of Venezuela and tends to need more light, warmth and air movement than other cattleyas. These needs may cause some growers to find them more difficult to grow with the rest of their collection. Color forms include white, blue, rose-lavender and darker purple. Flowers can be very large, up to 8 inches, and have

good stature. Expectations are for three to four blooms per spike on plants with a compact growth habit. In more recent years, the species has not been used a great amount, even though *C. lueddemanniana* is rewarding, with vibrant colors and showy displays of blooms. The most famous purple-flowered parent of all time, *Laeliocattleya Lustre* is half *C. lueddemanniana*.

Extracted from an article that appeared in the American Orchid Society Orchids magazine in March 1997 (Vol. 66:3, pp 234-243), reprinted with permission.



SHOW TABLE



Grower Suzanne Susko
Oip. Crimson Pride



Grower Steve Dorsey
Aergs. hariotiana



Grower Deborah Fox
Blc. George King 'Serendipity'
AM/AOS



Grower Lease Coder
Blc. (syn. Rlc.) Yen Surprise



Grower Sue Bottom
Bulb. graveolens



Grower Keith Davis
C. maxima fma. alba 'Kathleen' AM/AOS



Grower Jeff Milkins
Mps. Bert Field



SHOW TABLE



Grower Steve Dorsey
Mps. Bert Field



Grower Leasa Codner
Lc. Canhamiana FCC/AOS



Grower Sue Bottom
Prn. Shim Phyu Fah 'Chili Pepper' AM/AOS



Grower Jeff Milkins
Paph. Ho Chi Minh



Grower Suzanne Susko
Neof. falcata var. Shutenno



Grower Walter Muller
L. purpurata var. striata

Link to all Submissions: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjBtMKb>

