



# Why Repot Orchids?

- Orchids LOVE being Under Potted
- Plant will Require Time to Recover its Vigor after You Repot
- Don't Repot Unless You Have a Reason to Repot. Here are Some Reasons:
  - You Want Mix to Match Your Normal Mix
  - Two Types Mix Used (Bark around Sphagnum)
  - Potting Mix Degraded
  - Orchid is Unstable from Growing Out of Pot



# How Big of a Pot?

- Orchids Like to be Underpotted
- For Phalaenopsis – Almost Never More than 6” Pot, Use 4” Pot if Few Roots
- For Cattleyas – Allow for at least 2 Year’s Growth, Must Decide Whether to Divide or Grow Large Specimen Plant
- For Dendrobiums – Grow Very Tight, 4” Pot until Unwieldy, then Drop into 6” Pot



# What Type of Pots, if Any?

- Orchids Can Be Grown in Pots, Baskets and on Mounts
- For Pots:
  - Use Shallow Azalea and Bulb Pots for Most Orchids, Deep Pots for Cymbidiums
  - Clay vs. Plastic
    - Clay Breathes, Is More Stable in Wind
    - Plastic Holds More Water
  - Baskets – With or Without Media
  - Mounts Mimic Nature, Daily Watering



# What Potting Media is Best?

- There is No Best Potting Media, Match Your Mix to Your Time, Your Watering Habits and the Orchid's Preferences
- For Fleshy Leaf Type Orchids:
  - Water/Food Storage in Leaves Only
  - More Water Retentive Mix
- For Pseudobulb/Cane Orchids:
  - Water/Food Storage in Pseudobulbs & Canes
  - Coarser, More Freely Draining Mix



# When is the Best Time to Repot?

- You Want to Repot Immediately Before the Plant's Growth Spurt Period
- For Spring Blooming Phalaenopsis:
  - Repot as Soon as Bloom is Finished
  - Cut Spike and Repot No Later than June 30
- For Cattleyas/Dendrobiums:
  - As New Roots are Emerging - Best
  - In Spring Before Growth Season - 2<sup>nd</sup> Best
  - After Flowering – 3<sup>rd</sup> Best



# Old vs. New Roots

- The New Roots Growing after Repotting are What Gives Your Plant Vitality
- Be Brutal Cutting Away Old Roots, Trim so the Old Roots Take Up No More than 2/3 of the Available Pot Space
- You Will Be Amazed at How Fast the Plant will Reestablish Itself if You Repot as the Plant is Entering its Growth Spurt



# Repotting Phalaenopsis

- Phalaenopsis are Monopodial, Growing Up
- They Will Gain a Leaf or Two and Loose a Leaf or Two Each Year
- Cut Away Stem Until Vibrant Tissue
- Trim Roots to Fit into about 2/3 of Pot
- For Spring Blooming Phalaenopsis:
  - Repot as Soon as Bloom is Finished
  - Cut Spike and Repot No Later than June 30



# Repotting Cattleyas and Dendrobiums

- Cattleyas and Dendrobiums Grow Horizontally along a Rhizome
- Measure the Distance Between New Growths to Choose Pot Size, the Plant Should Fill at Least Half of the New Pot
- Retain at Least 3 to 5 Pseudobulbs and 2 to 3 Canes
- Water Blast Plant to Remove Bugs and Their Hiding Places



# Repotting Cattleyas and Dendrobiums

(cont'd)

- Trim Roots so Roots Fit into 2/3 of Pot
- Place Oldest Edge Against Pot Rim  
Allowing Most Space for Plant to Grow
- Secure Plant with Rhizome Clip to Prevent  
Wobbling While Plant Reestablishes
- Stake Vertical Part of Plant to Provide  
Additional Stability, if Necessary