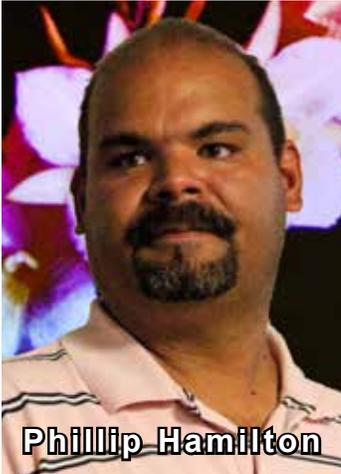




CLUB NEWS



Phillip Hamilton

June 4 Monthly SAOS Meeting

by Lola Stark, seacuter@bellsouth.net

Welcome and Thanks.

President Jeannette Pacetti opened the meeting at 7:15 with 2 visitors and 47 people present including new member Bobbi Halyburton, Penny's sister, and Laura Braly. President Jeannette thanked Jeanette Smith, Barbara Conrad, Shirley

Browning and Linda Stewart for our refreshments and asked those taking refreshments to please put a dollar in the jar to help pay for coffee, drinks, etc. Linda, our new Sunshine Coordinator, reminded those with a June birthday to be sure to get their extra raffle ticket from Christie. Jeannette reminded everyone to vote for their favorite on the show table, which gets better every month! Dick Roth announces the winner after the break following the program.

Club Business. Our librarian Penny Halyburton had a variety of books from our library and urged members to take some of them home for perusal. They're available for a month, and if that's not long enough, they can be renewed by telling Penny. Our library list in on the website, www.staugorchidsociety.org and all you have to do is call or email Penny and let her know what you want. She'll bring it to the next meeting.

Supplies - Our supplies are on the side table. Everything is \$5.00 and we have coarse mix, coco mix, sphagnum and soilless mix (2 for \$5) and time release and water soluble fertilizer.

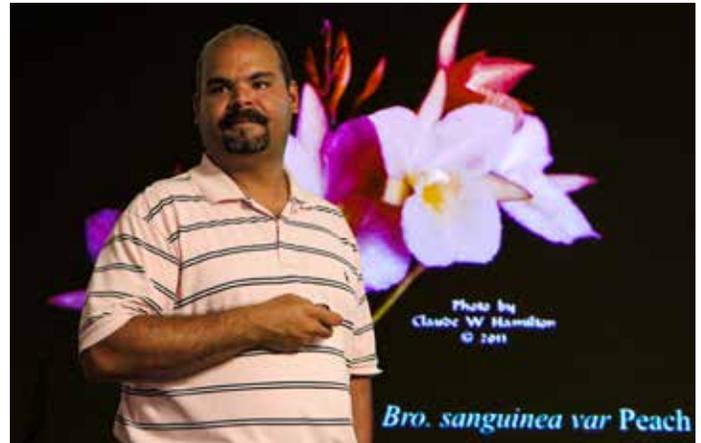


Keiki Club - The Keiki Club will meet next on June 23 at the home of Sue and Terry Bottom. The subject will be repotting phalaenopsis. If you have a question about

any of your orchids, bring them along for help and discussion.

Ace Repotting - The next repotting clinic will be on July 6 at Hagan Ace Hardware on US 1 South from 9 to 1 pm. We have lots of customers at these clinics and Ace is very cooperative with our folks.

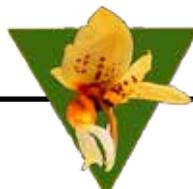
Orchid Events. Events can be found on the website. There are no shows in June.



Program. Our guest speaker for the evening was Phillip Hamilton of Bredren Orchids, Apopka, FL. His father is Claude Hamilton of Hamlyn Orchids in Jamaica. Phillip's subject for the evening was Broughtonias and their hybrids. The two original and most commonly hybridized species of Broughtonia are *Bro. sanguinea* and *Bro. negrilensis*, found in one relatively small area in western Jamaica. *Bro. sanguinea* tends to have a flat form and *Bro. negrilensis* tends to be more cupped. The species have different color forms including white, yellow, pink, and sometimes peach.

The species that were formerly known as *Cattleyopsis lindenii*, *ortgiesiana* and *cubensis* as well as *Laeliopsis domingensis* have been transferred into the Broughtonia genus. Two species of this genus are found in Cuba. *Bro. ortgiesiana* has leaves with rough edges, the other is *Bro. cubensis*. *Bro. domingensis* can be found in Hispanola as well as Jamaica.

Continued on page 3



CLUB NEWS



Upcoming Orchid Events

June

- 11 JOS Meeting, 7 pm, Topic TBA
Rafael Romero, Plantio L'Orquidea
- 23 Keiki Club for Orchid Beginners, 1 pm
Repotting Phalaenopsis
Sue and Terry Bottom's Home
6916 Cypress Lake Ct. St. Aug 32086

July

- 2 SAOS Meeting, 7 pm
Summer Orchid Auction
- 6 SAOS at Ace Hardware, 9 am til 1 pm
3050 US 1 S in St. Augustine
Repotting and Plant Clinic
- 9 JOS Meeting, 7 pm, Topic TBA
Francisco Miranda, Miranda Orchids
- 19-20 Third Annual Cattleya Symposium
Indian River Research & Education Center,
Fort Pierce

August

- 3 SAOS at Ace Hardware, 9 am til 1 pm
3050 US 1 S in St. Augustine
Repotting and Plant Clinic
- 6 SAOS Meeting, 7 pm
Roy Tokunaga, H & R Nurseries
Dendrobiums – Their Variety and Culture
- 13 JOS Meeting, 7 pm, Topic TBA
Roy Tokunaga, H & R Nurseries

September

- 3 SAOS Meeting, 7 pm
Mac Rivenbark, Mac's Orchids
Vandas and Vandaceous Orchids
- 7 SAOS at Ace Hardware, 9 am til 1 pm
3050 US 1 S in St. Augustine
Repotting and Plant Clinic
- 10 JOS Meeting, 7 pm, Topic TBA
Brian Monk, BluLlama Orchids

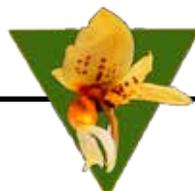
October

- 1 SAOS Meeting, 7 pm
Dr. Courtney Hackney
Hackneau's Art and Orchids
Orchid Growing Tips

- 5 SAOS at Ace Hardware, 9 am til 1 pm
3050 US 1 S in St. Augustine
Repotting and Plant Clinic
- 8 JOS Meeting, 7 pm, Topic TBA
Louis Del Favero. Del Favero Orchids
- 12-13 Fort Pierce Orchid Society Show
Fort Pierce Shrine Club
- 18-20 Orchttoberfest at EFG Orchids
4265 Marsh Road, Deland
- 19-20 Gainesville Orchid Society Show
Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
- 25-27 Delray Beach Orchid Society Show
Old School Square
- 26-27 Brevard County Orchid Society Show
Melbourne Auditorium

St. Augustine Orchid Society Organization

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CLUB NEWS

Continued from page 1

Phillip and his father have been working with the Broughtonias for some years and improvements in the flowers have been quite extensive. The flowers have become larger, rounder and flatter and the colors more varied.

Broughtonias are heat lovers that must have very good air circulation, bright light and plenty of water. They will stop growing when temperatures drop below 65. When temperatures drop, the grower should reduce the watering necessary to a minimum. These orchids will take a lot of water during their growing season. If watered frequently enough, the roots do not need any potting mix around them and can be grown simply in baskets or clay pots, openly. Alternatively they can be grown in the water retentive sphagnum moss and the plants will grow rapidly, although watering must be severely restricted in the winter when growing in this mix.



Mary Colee is the new Keiki Club Coordinator

The roots, if damaged, will not branch and continue to grow so they should be cut to the base of the pseudobulb. The plant can then be mounted or potted once the new root growth begins. They can be grown on slabs of tree fern, cork or driftwood and be very happy.

They are subject to scale which should be taken care of by scrubbing with alcohol and a Q tip or spraying with Talstar or a pesticide labeled for scale. To break the growth cycle, it is important to treat the plants once a week for three successive weeks.

One of the first hybrids Phillip mentioned and probably the most famous Cattleytonia is Ctna. Why Not, a cross between *C. aurantiaca* and *Bro. sanguinea* made in 1979. Then came Ctna. Rosy Jewel, a cross with *C. bowringiana*. The results of these crosses were larger flowers, in some cases wider petals and some spectacular coloring. Alba flowers were found and crossed, although they are not truly white, being more of a cream color. The 2011 hybrid between Lctna. Michael Sampson and Ctna. Marley Beckford is named Lctna. Xavier Hamilton, after Phillip's son. Others that he showed us pictures of were Bro. Hamlyn's Masterpiece (which has been highly awarded), Ctna. Jamaica Happy and Ctna. Jamaica Gypsy and the crosses with schomburgkias including Lyon. Hamlyn's Melody and Smbcn. Hamlyn's Glory. These hybrids showed us the advancement of breeding steps to achieve particular results. Remarkable pictures!

Meeting Conclusion. Following the intermission, Dick Roth announced that Sue Bottom's *Catasetum pileatum* was the Member's Choice from the Show Table. The Silent Auction winners were announced and then we had our Raffle with Fred, Christie and Gail doing the honors.

Thanks to Watson Realty and Jeanette Smith for the use of their meeting space at 3505 US 1 South



Linda Stewart is the new Sunshine Coordinator



CLUB NEWS

June 23 Keiki Club Repotting Phalaenopsis

The Keiki Club for orchid beginners will be Sunday afternoon on June 23 from 1 to 3 pm. It's time for the annual phalaenopsis repotting marathon. They've been in bloom for 3 months now and it's time to cut the spikes, repot them and let them gather strength for next year's show of flowers. Depending on your mix, they benefit greatly from being repotted each year. There will be a demonstration on how to repot and then it will be your turn to go to work. Bring one of your phals that needs repotting. We'll be meeting on Sunday, June 23 from 1 to 3 pm. Bring a folding chair. We'll meet at Sue and Terry Bottom's house at [6916 Cypress Lake Ct. in St. Aug 32086](#). Call Sue at 797-4360 if you have any questions.



July 2 Monthly SAOS Meeting Summer Orchid Auction

We will have our summer orchid auction at the July 2 meeting of the St. Augustine Orchid Society. Auctioneer Extraordinaire Fred Keefer will chair this fund raising event. We'll have a good selection of plants, including some from the Orchids by Del-Rei, the Orchid Specialist and maybe some from Sue Bottom's greenhouse. When we get closer to the event we'll publish a list of offerings to whet your appetite. We'll have our normal show table and refreshments. Come to the Conference Room of Watson Realty at 7 pm to see which plants you might want to bid on. The meeting and auction will start at 7:30.

May 26 Keiki Club Watering and Fertilizing Your Orchids

About two dozen new and familiar faces came to the May Keiki Club meeting where we discussed watering and fertilizing your orchids. Harry McElroy gave a demonstration on testing the pH of your water. pH is a measurement of the balance between acidic hydrogen ions and basic hydroxide ions and values range between 0 (very acidic) and 14 (very basic). At a pH of 7.0, the solution is said to be neutral. Irrigation waters should fall in the range of 6 to 7.5. The pH of irrigation water pH affects the availability of nutrients and micronutrients, the solubility of fertilizers, and the efficacy of insecticides and fungicides. Generally, the higher the water pH, the lower the solubility of these materials.

Harry recommends the purchase of cheap colorimetric test kits for pH. There are also easy to use test strips that can be purchased online for pH (range of 6 to 9) and total alkalinity (up to 360 ppm). Knowing the quality of your water is important, both the water quality as it leaves the faucet and the water quality draining from your pot. The [website](#) contains links to many articles if you are interested in more detailed information.

Harry brought some 'problem' plants to discuss. The cymbidium was very wobbly in the pot and when Harry knocked it out of the pot, the roots were starting to degrade indicating it needed to be repotted. Two phrags were not growing to their full potential. When Harry tested the pH of water as it left the pots of these three plants, he found the water had a pH close to 8 which is too high for good culture. Given this information, Harry is making a change to his fertilizer program and will replace half the dolomitic lime (used as a source of additional calcium and magnesium) with gypsum (calcium sulfate) which will not increase pH the way lime does but will still provide the additional calcium his plants crave.

People brought in plants they had questions about and the group viewed and discussed each plant. Symptoms of color break caused by virus, mite damage, sunburn and overpotting were all observed and discussed along with how to address these problems.

We trimmed up a large jewel orchid, *Ludisia discolor*, and we had many cuttings to share with everyone. We demonstrated how to pot them up in a shallow bulb pot half filled with Styrofoam peanuts, then an inch or so of the soilless mix, then the cuttings lain horizontally along the surface of the mix and top filled with another inch of soilless mix. These shade lovers are relatively slow growing and will do well inside or outside in a very shady spot. They are grown mostly for their foliage though they do put on a month long floral display in February with vertical white flowers similar to a Wandering Jew. We'll check the show table in February!



INSPIRATION



L. purpurata f. striata

© Terry Bottom 2013



CULTIVATION



Growing Tips for June

Dr. Courtney Hackney,
hackneau@comcast.net
Dept. Biology, Univ. North
Florida

Leaving on vacation always involves some extra work in the greenhouse, even if it just a short vacation. Even under-lights growers must prepare their orchids and growing area. The good news is that orchids handle being left alone just

fine, with just a few exceptions. My rule of thumb is that leaving more than 7-8 days requires someone to check in or to water some of the more sensitive orchids in the collection, but leaving less than a week is OK with just a few precautions. In nature, orchids frequently go through dry periods, so a little drying is not generally a concern for most orchids that are well established. However, orchids with fine roots that lack pseudobulbs or small seedlings need some special treatment before you leave.



Relaxing under a palm is the preferred vacation mode, rather than worrying about your orchids

The evening before leaving soak all orchids with just water, no fertilizer. Early the next morning soak all the collection thoroughly again with just water. I then spray all orchids, including side walls and floor of the greenhouse with a general fungicide. The objective is to allow orchids to be well hydrated when you leave and to eliminate bacterial and fungal spores that may cause problems should the weather be moist and humid. Orchids that are vulnerable to drying are placed in very shady locations or under benches. This group includes those mounted. As long as there is good air circulation there are rarely rot problems. This time, I had some seedlings just out of flask. They were placed

under a bench and the entire flat was set into a shallow pan and one quarter inch of rainwater was added to the pan to provide humidity to the new seedlings and also to allow some water to wick up into the medium.

When I returned after eight days, the water was gone, but the medium was still damp and the seedlings starting to put out new roots.

Newly repotted orchids with pseudobulbs will often respond to a dry period with a flush of roots. Traditionally, orchid nurseries would confine newly repotted orchids to a separate bench or greenhouse and withhold water until new roots appeared. This provided good roots for the future as well as limited rots that often develop when damaged roots and rhizomes are allowed to stay moist after repotting.

For windowsill growers, leaving your orchids for an extended period of time leads to the same problems, although rots are seldom an issue. If you are growing under lights or the heat/air conditioner is running while you are gone, drying can be far worse than in the greenhouse. Some growers who use high intensity lights in basements or dark rooms simply turn off lights. While that may limit the drying problem the lack of light can confuse your orchids who rely on day length to stimulate growth and flowering. A few 60 w bulbs on a timer can solve this problem. It is also recommended that the thermostat be changed to limit the time heat or air conditioning will be delivered.

The biggest potential problem is a power failure when it is hot and the greenhouse is closed in summer. A similar problem with freezing can occur if there is a power failure in winter. This is a problem that can lead to the loss of an entire collection. Every greenhouse should have a backup system that works automatically when you are away.



An Ortho Sprayer is a good way to apply fungicide



Last resort 'Backup Plan' - neighborhood kid



CULTIVATION

Your Orchids in June

based on Robert Scully articles,
courtesy of the AOS



General Growing Tips. Spring's mild days are gone. The late spring-early summer growing conditions induce vigorous vegetative activity. Orchids repotted earlier should be showing abundant root development and new growth. With the sun higher and more intense for more hours each day, higher day and night temperatures, excellent air circulation and a fresh growing medium, orchids will consume more food for high quality flowers next season. If you switched to nighttime watering during spring, it is time to resume morning watering so the leaves will be dry by evening.

Cattleyas. The showy *Laelia purpurata* and *tenebrosa* are in bloom this month. You can repot individual plants later in the year if they need it, but the bulk of your cattleya repotting should be completed this month. The remaining months of the growing season will give the plants time to develop adequate new growth for next season's flowers. Cattleyas grown outside must be protected from excessive rainfall.



Cymbidiums. Cymbidiums are heavy feeders and the plants are growing fast now so fertilizer is a must. Use a good Cal Mag fertilizer and top dress with a 50/25/25 mix of crushed seashell, gypsum and granular dolomite lime and 15-8-11 controlled release fertilizer. Fertilize devonianum and its primary hybrids at half that rate.



Dendrobium.

Dendrobiums resent being repotted, but if you have some that have grown totally out of their pot or the potting mix has degraded, finish repotting them this month. Dendrobium canes grow closely together and many years growth can be accommodated in the same pot. Use a small pot and a largely inorganic mix that won't degrade like lava rock or aliflor; add just a little nutrient holding tree fern, coco husk or bark to the mix. Look at your deciduous cane-type dendrobiums that bloomed this spring and consider mounting them. They should be drenched with water and fertilizer during the summer months.



Phalaenopsis.

Complete repotting of phalaenopsis this month, they benefit from being repotted each year. If your phal is still in bloom by the end of the month, consider cutting the inflorescence and placing it in a vase to enjoy for another week. Don't be greedy, a phal will deteriorate if forced to carry its inflorescence too long during the long, hot summer days. Repot and allow it to develop new roots and leaves for next year's blooming season. After new roots appear, water more frequently with a dilute fertilizer solution.



Vandas. Vandas enjoy bright, but not direct, sunlight, an abundance of water and fertilizer and copious amounts of fresh air. Wet the roots once or twice a day until they turn green and after an hour or two, spray the roots with a fertilizer solution. With enough light, water, fertilizer and air, your plants will reward you with beautiful blooms.



CULTIVATION



Orchid Questions & Answers

by Sue Bottom,
sbottom15@bellsouth.net

my summer blooming phals. These flattened spikes are shaped differently and some bloom off of an inflorescence that started last year. Do I cut these back or not?

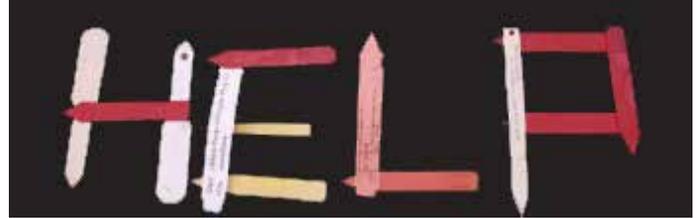
A1. That phal is one of the summer bloomers in the *Polychilos* subgenus that includes *amboinensis*, *bastiani*, *cornu-cervi*, *fasciata*, *hieroglyphica*, *lueddemanniana*, *pulchra* and *violacea*. The inflorescence should not be cut because it will continue to bloom on the same flower spike this and next season.



Q2. I have some orchids that are very wobbly in their pots and when I looked at the roots, I found white masses growing on the roots and in the potting medium. What is it?

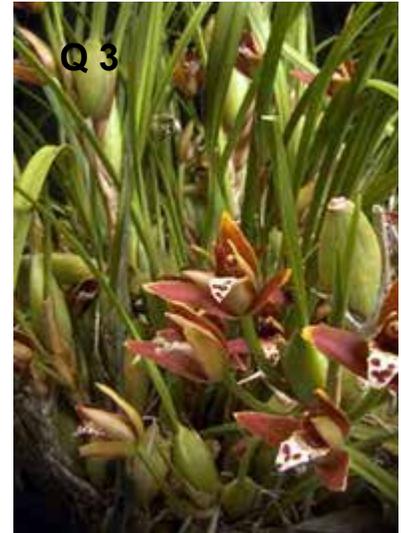


A2. That is snow mold, a fungus that grows on the rotting potting media. It will eventually cover the roots suffocating them by depriving them of air and moisture. Remove all the decaying potting mix, drench the roots in physan or pool algacide and repot in clean potting mix.

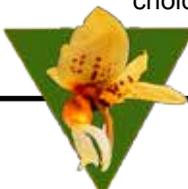
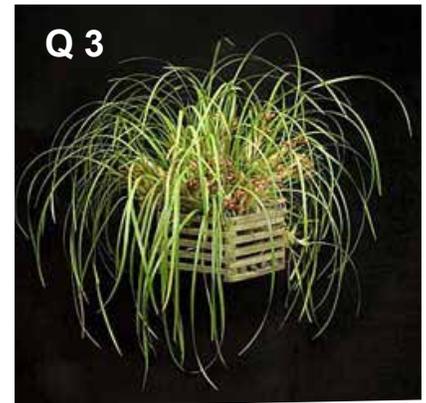


Q3. I bought a pot of *maxillaria tenuifolia* (coconut orchid) two weeks ago. I know I need to repot it very soon to have it re-establish and grow. But it just flowered and still has flowers on. Is it good to repot it now?

A3. For any orchid, the best time to repot is when the orchid is starting to grow new roots. When you see the new roots beginning to form, repot and the plant will reestablish itself the most quickly. Some information about this plant and pictures from the [AOS website](#): The long rhizome makes for a somewhat straggly plant that wants to climb out of a pot, but a good sized plant can



be easily kept in a six inch pot. It will eventually start to droop over the edge as it grows up but by that time, you should plan to repot it anyway as it will take a couple of years to reach that stage by which time the media will need replacing. Basket culture is an optimal solution to accommodate this growth habit and a slab of tree fern will work equally well, although not offer as tidy a presentation. Most elements of *Max. tenuifolia* culture are quite forgiving with the main consideration being the avoidance of stale or soggy media. We have grown it in all sorts of media including osmunda, fir bark, coconut husk fiber or chunks and, of course, fir bark mixes. The paramount quality of the media is that it does not stay consistently wet so sphagnum may be the least suitable choice.



CULTIVATION

Orchid Roots

Sue Bottom, sbottom15@bellsouth.net

If there is only one thing that you need to know to successfully grow orchids, it is that orchid roots are different from the roots on your other houseplants. The orchid root consists of an inside core (cortex) that is very tough and carries nourishment and an outside covering (velamen) that is a spongelike material that absorbs water, fertilizer and oxygen. Healthy root tips are bright green. The longer the green portion, the faster the root is growing.

Function of Orchid Roots. Many orchids are epiphytes, meaning they grow on trees, where the roots attach the plant securely, search out nutrition, absorb dew and rainfall among other things.

Absorb Water. When dry, orchid roots are white but they should quickly turn green when they are watered. When wet, the velamen acts like a sponge, swelling up with water to be absorbed later by the plant. When dry, it acts as an impermeable barrier to prevent water loss from the plant.



Attach to Substrate. While aerial roots can also take up water and nutrients, their primary purpose is to keep the orchid attached to its surface. Aerial roots, once attached, may become flattened to provide more attachment surface area. The roots cling to any substrate so well that at times it can be very difficult to remove these clinging roots from whatever they are attached to. There is more velamen on aerial roots and they are adapted to the cyclical drenching and drying of intermittent rainstorms. These roots will become soft and green when they have been continually wet for 10 minutes or so, only then will they absorb water.



Gas Exchange. One very important function of epiphytic roots is the exchange of gases, mostly to take in oxygen and expel carbon dioxide, so they enjoy being exposed to moving fresh air. Most orchids can't be grown in potting soil. Special high porosity potting mixes have been developed to ensure there is sufficient air around the roots.

Photosynthesis. Another job for some roots is to photosynthesize, which is why you often see orchids grown in clear pots. There are some orchid species that do not have leaves, but obtain their energy from chlorophyll in their roots.

Temporary Storage. Many roots also provide temporary storage for food and water.

Repotting. New orchid growers are often terrified of the prospect of dividing and repotting orchids. Without some friendly assistance, new growers will often leave plants in the same potting mix long after that mix has degraded so the plants lose their roots and struggle to survive. Potting orchids in a good mix at the proper time will help ensure their survival and your self confidence in growing orchids.



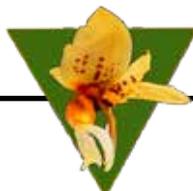
The best time to repot your orchid is when new roots are just emerging because the plant will become acclimated the most quickly at this time. If you're careful, you can repot when new roots are a quarter or half inch long. They can be easily broken during the repotting process and when damaged, they will not regrow so if they're longer than one half inch, wait until they're 4" long or more before repotting. If these longer roots are broken during repotting, they'll branch and continue to grow..



Root growth for some orchid species is almost impossible to initiate except at very specific times in the growth cycle. Some bifoliate cattleya species only put out a very small number of roots in a given year and if these are damaged or destroyed, there will be no growth until the following year at the same time. Bifoliate cattleyas should only be repotted when new roots emerge from the new growth.

Orchid roots become accustomed to their growing environment. When there is a substantial change in this environment, the plant has to grow a different set of roots acclimated to the new conditions.

Continued on page 10



CULTIVATION

Continued from page 9

- When you have a plant that has its aerial roots hanging outside the pot, the roots do not respond well to being placed inside the pot and covering them with growing mix. Better to place them in a bulb pot with a few large chunks of lava rock and after the roots begin to branch, add additional potting mix a little bit at a time.



- The roots of an orchid that has been mounted or grown in a coarse medium tend to be hard and resistant to drying, unlike the fat soft roots found in a sphagnum moss, peat or other water retentive mixtures. Roots on plants grown in sphagnum will not easily adapt to epiphyte-like conditions, nor will roots grown in a coarse, dry medium adapt to sphagnum moss. Roots of both will die if there is a radical change in the type of medium, although new roots will grow and establish in any medium.

- A substantial change in water quality may require the plant to grow new roots to adjust to their new conditions.



Encourage Root Growth. You can encourage new root growth with some of the root stimulators like rooting hormones, seaweed and SuperThrive, particularly in seedlings or recently repotted plants.

Rooting hormones are commercially available and usually contain synthetic phytohormones such as synthetic cytokinins and synthetic auxins (naphthalene acetic acid, indole 3 butyric acid and indole acetic acid) that are used to stimulate root growth.



Seaweed extract is an organic product derived from harvested brown seaweed that contains major and minor nutrients, amino acids and growth promoting substances like auxins, cytokinins and gibberellins (advanced growers may be interested in KelpPak). Seaweed extract is often used to start the growth cycle in spring, enhance root growth on seedlings and divisions, and initiate multiple new growths from back bulbs. Using seaweed immediately after repotting is a good practice to encourage new root growth. *SuperThrive* contains the synthetic rooting hormone 1-naphthyl acetic acid at 0.04%, vitamin B1 (thiamine, also known to stimulate root growth) at 0.09%, plus a variety of trade-secret ingredients likely including kelp extracts, humates, soluble iron compounds, and the like (from FirsRays.com). Many growers soak newly deflasked plantlets in a SuperThrive solution or use SuperThrive when repotting to help stimulate root growth.

If you want to have beautiful blooms, you have to have a healthy plant. In order to have a healthy plant, you must have vibrant roots. An orchid without healthy roots cannot grow well and cannot generate enough energy to provide you with the floral reward that will justify all your orchid labors.

More Information: [Orchid Roots](#), by the Canadian Orchid Congress, [Root Cells and Culture](#), by Ray Barkalow of FirstRays.com.



ORCHID ADVENTURES



Orchid Adventures

[Miranda Orchids](#), Haines City

At the end of May, the *Laelia purpuratas* start to bloom so we went to Miranda Orchids to drool over their specimen plants with all the different color forms. Francisco was in Brazil so we spent several most enjoyable hours with his charming and knowledgeable wife Cristina, who taught us a few new orchid growing tricks. If it's possible to have a favorite orchid, *Laelia purpurata* would be mine.



HOME & BACKYARD

Home and Backyard Orchid Growing

Bob and Yvonne Schimmel

by [Bob Schimmel](mailto:schimmelr55@bellsouth.net), schimmelr55@bellsouth.net

We are novices at the growing and nurturing of orchids and any other plant for that matter. We live in Moultrie Foreside an ungated subdivision east of US 1 at the end of Vaill Point Road. We have a half acre wooded (oak trees) lot.



Our first orchid was a Vanda purchased from a vendor at a farmer's market about 6 years ago. Through ignorance and not the best advice from various sources, the Vanda died a slow and hopefully not painful death.



Orchids Under Oak Trees

Subsequent to that Yvonne procured a few more orchids and attended her first SAOS meeting about 3 years ago. Today we are active members and learning new things at every SAOS meeting and other orchid functions. Presently we have about 140 orchids of many varieties.



Orchids Grow Under Pergola

We have our orchids in our yard under a pergola, oak tree and between oak trees. We water when we think they need it depending on weather (humidity, breezes, sunshine and temperature). When it gets cold (50 degrees F) all of the orchids are moved into our glassed-in porch or garage. This past winter I think we moved them in and out 5 or 6 times.

We started fertilizing with water soluble Better-Gro mixes 11-35-15 or 20-14-13 at 1 tsp. per gallon. When our orchid quantity went above 50 to 60 plants, we switched to time release fertilizer Floricote Top Dress 10-5-14, which we apply at 1/2 tbsp. and 1 tbsp. for 4 inch and 6 inch pots respectively.



Dining with the Orchids Under Pergola

During the past couple of years we have been quite successful with blooms and plant longevity having only lost fewer than 5 plants during that time mostly due to ignorance on our part. Most of our knowledge and success have been obtained from the SAOS newsletter, Keiki Club get togethers, meeting lectures, discussions with other orchid growers and participation in the potting clinics at Ace Hardware.

Our future plans include a small green house on our property. The size and design are pending.



Sun Porch for Bloomers



SHOW TABLE



Grower Harry & Celia McElroy
Phrag. Rosy Gem 'A'



Grower Sue Bottom
Paph. Saint Swithin



Grower Harry & Celia McElroy
Phrag. Calurum



Grower Sue Bottom
L. purpurata var. werkhauseri



Grower Sue Bottom
C. Dupreana



Grower Mike & Kaycee Heinz
L. purpurata 'var. carnea x Cindarosa'



Grower Courtney Hackney
Paph. Magic Lantern



SHOW TABLE



Grower Mike & Kaycee Heinz
Enc. Chiapas



Grower Sue Bottom
Ctsm. pileatum



Grower Courtney Hackney
C. warszewiczii var. *alba* 'Leo Holguin' FCC/AOS



Grower Sue Bottom
Lyc. aromatica



Grower Dick Roth
Ctna. Why Not 'Roundabout' AM/AOS



Grower Mike & Kaycee Heinz
Ascda. Mem. Louis Hatos

