



NEWS

Volume 24.5– November 2012

The AOS
Show
Trophy at
the RBG
Show was
won by
Mario and
Conni
Ferrusi



New Web Links

The Orchid Society of Nova Scotia has a new link to the society website at <http://www.nsorchidsociety.com>

The members of the Windsor Orchid Society / La Societe Des Orchidophiles de Windsor, are proud to announce the launch their new website at <http://www.windsororchidsociety.ca>

In order to make it easier for your members to keep up with what is happening in other orchids societies consider adding to your society website the links to all the Canadian orchid societies.

Membership/Insurance Renewal

This is the last reminder that your fees for membership and insurance renewal are due by Dec. 01 2012. There is a late penalty if you miss. I need to know where the meetings are held (mailing address), if they have an annual show and its date, how many attended at their last show and if the equipment amount has changed. If any of the venues want to be named on the insurance policy either for the regular meetings or for the Shows, I will need the full name and address of the venue by Dec. 1, 2012 so I can have it put into the policies.

For the form and details see <http://www.canadianorchidcongress.ca/cocinsure.html>

Dianne Gillis



COC medal winning display from the Fraser Valley show. Mr. President, Abu Salleh is standing in front of an exhibit with various groups of orchids - theme was "Orchids at Home".

The COC on Facebook

The Canadian Orchid Congress and Montreal/Toronto Judging Centers have launched a new Facebook site under the name "ORCHID JOURNAL".

This initiative was developed to enhance and compliment local society efforts in maintaining information sites and is intended to be used as an orchid community bulletin board. Your orchid society and its members can now post directly to this site - pictures, meeting notices, recognition of special volunteers' contributions, show publicity, etc.

Society Executive not Facebook savvy?? - send show pictures and publicity promos, announcements etc directly to Marlene and she will post them for you!

If your Society maintains a Facebook site, please 'like' us and your site will get the latest in updates from the COC and your orchid community.

Come and have a look at the COC on Facebook - the Orchid Journal:

<http://www.facebook.com/OrchidJournal>

Please contact me if you have any questions and/or suggestions!

Marlene Young, Facebook Administrator,
ORCHID JOURNAL, marlyoung@hotmail.com

Societies now on Facebook

[Fraser Valley Orchid Society](#)

[Richmond Orchid Club](#)

[Victoria Orchid Society](#)

[Foothills Orchid Society](#)

[Ottawa Orchid Society](#)

[Southern Ontario Orchid Society](#)

[Niagara Region Orchid Society](#)

[Windsor Orchid Society](#)

[Eastern Canada Orchid Society](#)

[La Société des Orchidophiles de Montréal](#)

[Société des Orchidophiles de Québec](#)

[Les Orchidophiles du Saguenay Lac St-Jean](#)

President's Notes

On behalf of the COC member societies I thank the RBG orchid society for the wonderful arrangements for our 2012 Annual General Meeting and for hosting our executive and delegates at their Saturday night party and auction. The auction had its moments such as when Mario Ferrusi paid real money to have Doug Kennedy eat broccoli. The auction raised a little over \$900 to be shared between the society and COC. Thank you contributors of auction items, the bidders, and auctioneer Pat Vuurman.

The show produced seven AOS Awards and a variety of very attractive displays by individuals, vendors and societies. The COC trophy went to the best display entered by an individual and was won by Barb Morden of the Essex County Orchid Society down Windsor, Ontario way. The COC President's Trophy went to an educational display on Sobralia's produced by Marilyn Light entered by the Ottawa Orchid Society. The AOS show trophy was won by Mario and Conni Ferrusi.

The AGM

Eight member societies were represented at the AGM on Sunday morning, one sent in a proxy giving us quorum when counting in the President and the immediate past president. It is unfortunate that three member societies in the immediate Southern Ontario area were unable to find volunteers to attend on their behalf. This seems to be a sign of the times.

The meeting expressed votes of thanks for services rendered to the following: Dianne Gillis for managing the insurance system, Jerry Bolce for the web site and the newsletter, Peter Poot for serving as president.

The AGM elected Inge Poot to the position of Secretary and continued Andre Couture as Treasurer. A committee consisting of Peter Poot, Andre Couture, Jean Hollebhone, Terry Kennedy and Jerry Bolce was established to deal with the transitioning of the bylaws to the new Not for Profit Corporations Act. The decisions respecting the nominations for president and vice president were deferred until the next AGM. Peter Poot agreed to continue as interim president.

The meeting discussed the propositions regarding electronic meetings and travel cost reimbursement. There was considerable support for both. The meeting recommended that we try the electronic meeting format for future meetings. The travel cost

reimbursement issue was tabled for further study of the details.

The Manitoba Orchid Society invitation to hold the 2013 AGM with their Winnipeg show March 22-24 at the Assiniboine Park Conservatory was gratefully accepted. We hope to have an electronic connection in place for this meeting. So reps and or presidents please consider being available on either the 23rd or the 24th.

The matter of a new President and two new vice-presidents needs serious consideration by all member societies. Recommendations should come from the executive committees of member societies and should be society members with a proven service record. Please give this serious consideration and send your recommendations to Jean Hollebhone.

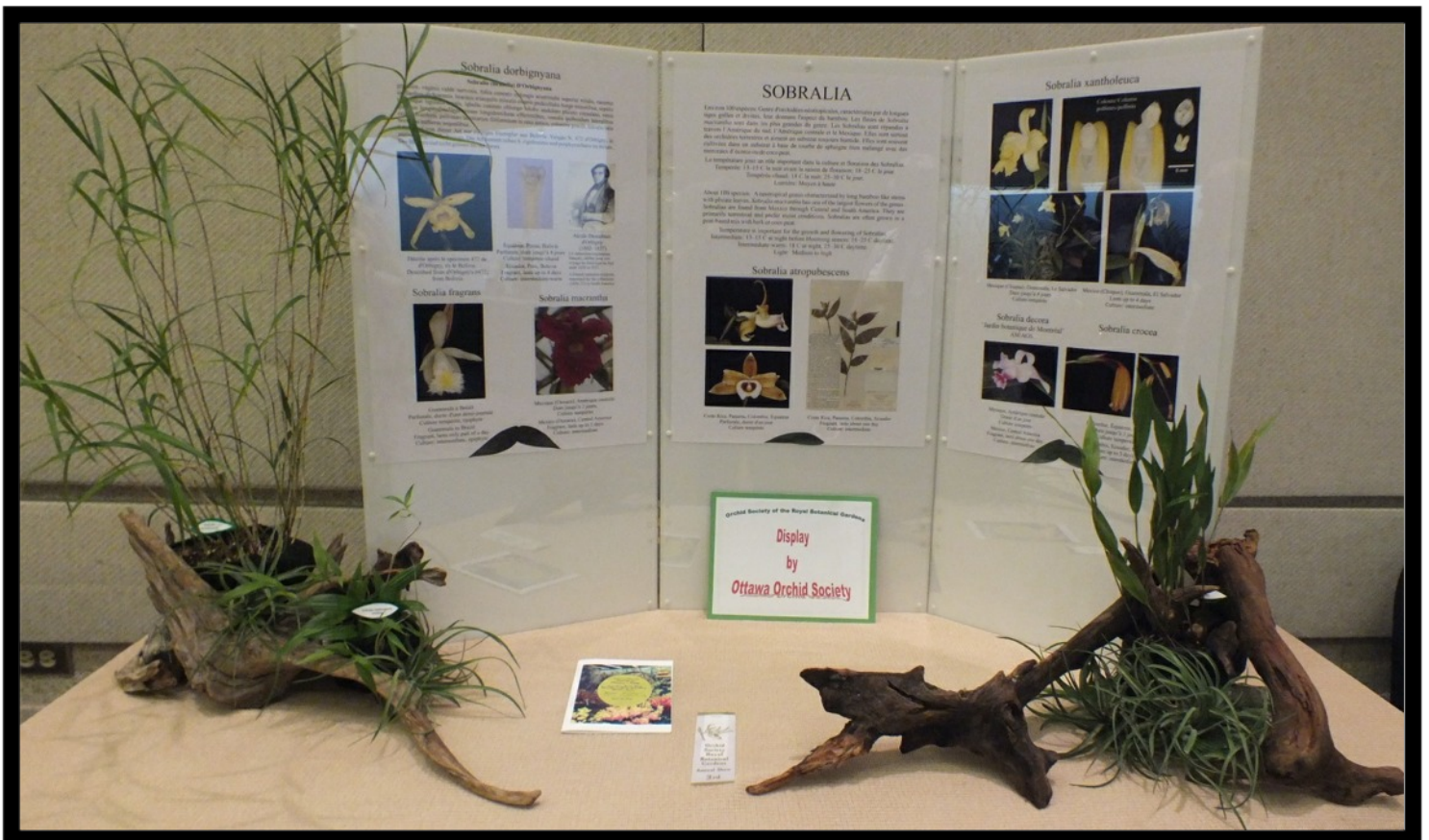
Peter Poot, Interim President.

The Manitoba Orchid Society
is pleased to host
The 2013 Annual Meeting
of the
Canadian Orchid Congress
in conjunction with
"A Symphony
of Orchids"
Annual Spring Orchid
Show and Sale
March 22, 23 & 24, 2013
Assiniboine Park Conservatory
15 Conservatory Drive
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Watch for more information at: www.manitobaorchidsociety.ca
2013 Show Chair - Lorne Heshka - lheshka@mjmts.net



COC Show Trophy at RBG Show won by Barb Morden of the Essex County Orchid Society



COC President's Trophy at RBG Show by Marilyn Light entered by the Ottawa Orchid Society

Why Facebook?



Facebook currently has 18,573,940 users in Canada. Here is a way to reach out to a particular demographic to maybe join your society or, at least, come to your show. They are young people that grew up welded to smart media. The largest age group is currently 25 - 34 with total of 4,457,746 users, followed by the users in the age of 18 - 24. They are not just people with computers but people with smart phones and tablets – Facebook supplies apps that support a wide variety of portable devices, meaning one can browse anytime, anywhere.

Facebook is free. It is easy to set up. It is easy to post pictures and comments. It can be the presence on the Internet for societies that cannot afford or manage a website. It can also be an adjunct to a society website. Facebook has an account type for non-profit organizations which allows the most flexibility for the society. The other choice is a personal account.

What goes on Facebook? To quote Marlene Young: “Awesome only. Images are great. Short to the point comments, not articles. Articles or videos can be referenced by a link.”

You dont need a Facebook account to access the other Facebook site, but you are very limited - best to have your own account. A lot people are concerned with privacy issues. There really is no requirement to put in your life’s story. Keep it simple and KNOW your privacy settings. Try YouTube and the web to answer your questions. There are many simple videos there with step by step instructions – not as convoluted as some of the Facebook instructions.

If I have a Facebook account, how do I connect to other Facebook sites? For a personal site you must request to be a “friend” and the other party must agree. With organization accounts, you just ‘like’ them. In both cases your main page will show postings from the other sites.

Facebook members can make comments on postings right on their newsfeeds from their page if they have ‘liked’ it OR click to the site and post/add pictures right on the page.

Why Twitter?



Twitter provides an instant messaging service. It works especially well with mobile devices like smartphones and tablets.

How much would you like to remind your membership of a meeting, speaker or change of plans?

How about a means of informing the interested public that this years show is happening soon? It is very difficult and expensive to advertise to the general public. Here is a means to keep them informed about happenings in the orchid world.

You set up a Twitter account. They connect to your Twitter site and choose to “follow”. A Twitter message or “tweet” is up to 140 characters and is sent to all your followers. They can also reply to your messages.

Why Skype?



Skype is a free video conferencing service. It allows you to call up family or friends over the Internet. Distance doesnt matter - they can be half a world away.

Skype also provides video conferencing with up to 25 people connected at once on Skype (speed limitations will set that number lower). It can be audio only, like the telephone (no long distance charge) but is better with the video also. For a small charge you can also call out to a telephone.

Because sending and receiving live video involves a lot of data , it works best when one has the high speed DSL Internet service. A recent computer usually comes with a camera, a microphone, and speakers but they can be purchased separately. It can run effectively on a recent laptop or some tablets and TVs.

SARCOCHILUS CULTURE

BY PHIL SPENCE

Here is some material given to us by Phil Spence from Australia during his Canadian lecture tour this past summer. The tour was generously financed by Gail Schwarz our COC education director from Nova Scotia and the Southern Ontario Orchid Society. Phil talked in Nova Scotia and at SOOS Orchidfest in August. Thank you Gail and Phil for these culture tips.

Plant new bare-root plants in sphagnum moss and keep shady until new roots form. Then follow instructions below, or use your own well-draining open mix. **DON'T LET PLANTS DRY OUT BUT DON'T KEEP THEM TOO WET OR STAND THEM IN WATER.**

MIX

1/2 part medium bark
1/4 part small bark

Wash both well and soak for 24 hours.

1/8 part medium coconut chunks.

Soak separately for 24 hours, then rinse well twice. This helps get rid of excess salt.

1/8 part styrofoam (not perlite as it breaks down and leaves a fine sand that roots don't like).
Grate or break into 3/8 inch pieces or smaller.

Add a small amount of medium to small charcoal, dust free.

Also add to mix Osmocote or Feed N' Forget (slow release fertilizer) as follows:

1/4 tsp in a 2 1/2 inch pot
1/2 tsp in a 4 inch pot
1 tsp in a 6 inch pot
1 tbsp in a 10 inch pot.

ORCHID SOCIETIES COUNCIL OF VICTORIA (Australia)
<http://www.oscov.asn.au/articles2/cultsarc.htm>



Sarcochilus hartmannii 'Kyle' CCM-AOS Photo from AQ+

They suggest using "squat" pots and a mix of 2 parts fine bark and 1 part small pebbles.

LIGHT

Medium to low light similar to mottled leaf Paphs or a bit lower than Phals. Don't put next to a south or west window in the summer.

Three weeks after the shortest day of the year increase light to Phal light until buds are advanced but not open. Then reduce light again.

WATER

Don't let mix dry out completely.

Water thoroughly when watering to flush out accumulated salts.

Don't stand plants in water.

Don't let mix become soggy/mushy or broken down.

Rain water is best but will tolerate tap water. Black spots on leaves means they don't like the tap water.

If leaves wrinkle look at the roots. It could mean the mix has gone off, or not enough water or too much water. **Most problems with sarcs come from root problems.**

HUMIDITY

Should be around 75% or higher.

Sit plants on a tray filled with gravel and water.

Water should never touch the bottom of the pot.

In greenhouse put pan of water under the Sarcochilus bench.



Sarcochilus Charm 'Julie Ann' AM-AOS
Photo from AQ+

FERTILIZING

You can spray a dilute fertilizer (1/8 strength) on the foliage (weakly/weekly) if you use slow release fertilizer. If you don't use slow release fertilizer then you can use a slightly stronger solution (1/4 strength) in the pot.

If the leaves are yellowish and thin, they need more food.

If the leaves are a very dark green then give more light and less fertilizer.

If a hybrid has *S. spathulatus*, *S. dilatatus*, *S. ceciliae*, *S. olivaceous* or *Plectorrhiza tridentate* in its background, the foliage might show some red pigmentation.

TIPS FROM DAVID BUTLER, AN EXCELLENT SARC GROWER IN AUSTRALIA

He does NOT use a slow release fertilizer. He feels they get too much fertilizer in hot weather. He just uses a dilute

liquid fertilizer when plants are growing and stops fertilizing in the winter when they stop growing.

Don't overwater in hot weather as it cooks the roots.

Temperatures from 8-28C if possible but will tolerate 2-35C when plants are older provide they get fresh air and humidity.

MOST SARCS DIE FROM TOO MUCH TLC, POORLY AERATED MIX, AND OVER WATERING.



Sarcochilus Burgundy on Ice 'Australia' AM-AOS Photo from AQ+

IF YOU LOOSE ROOTS-PHIL SPENCE & DAVID BUTLER

Wash off the dead roots but be careful of new roots.

Take off a few of the lower leaves and pot plant in sphagnum, putting some moss around the bare stem, until new roots form. Phil says you will get baby plants on the stem.

You can also lay the old stem on top of the moss and new growths will appear along the stem. Stabilize the stem with a wire bent in the shape of a "U" so the stem doesn't move.

When the new plants get big enough, you can cut them off and pot them. Phil says that these make the best specimen plants when they mature as they put out more growths from the base of the plant.

Pests and Diseases of Orchids

by Ron McHatton, Director of Education and Chief Operating Officer for AOS, transcribed by Inge Poot

[Most pesticides and fungicides mentioned are not available in several provinces.]

Ron McHatton is rather well qualified to talk about this topic with continent-wide perspective, since he has grown orchids in the desert, in upstate New York and in Florida. He lives in Florida at present and is learning how to cope with the giant black and red-striped grasshopper (*Romalea microptera*) a beast we luckily do not encounter in Canada. However, with global warming progressing ever faster.....

When it comes to pesticides hobbyists simply are too few in number to have any impact on new pesticide development or retention of effective products. The market is driven by the mega-consumption of farmers and when a product no longer works on agricultural crops due to development of resistance, the product ceases to be produced, no matter how well it still works on our indoor tropical orchids.

If the Environmental Protection Agency finds a harmful effect on the environment, it will take the product off the market. The most frequent reason effective products are taken off the market is because the patent on them has run out. At that point anyone can produce them and no one makes a killing on them, so they are dropped in favour of something new - not necessarily as effective, or more important, as benign for mammals, but still under patent.

The result is a limited life-cycle for any pesticide.

Know thy pest – But know thy treatment better.

Pests

Some pests only feed on vascular fluids (eg aphids)

Others only on leaf tissue (eg caterpillars)

Still others on chlorophyll (eg mites, they strip off the surface of leaves)

Pesticides

Pesticides, INCLUDING SO-CALLED GREEN ones, must be matched to the pest

Types of Pesticides:

Contact Poisons – most of the “green” pesticides like soaps, horticultural oils, etc.

Contact/Stomach Poisons – Many of the older pesticides including systemics like Cygon

Systemic Poisons – Most travel up the Xylem (vascular system, in the central portion of stems/trunks). Effective on sucking pests like aphids, whiteflies, scale, mealybugs.

Thiophanate methyl and **Subdue** are fungicides that travel the vascular system. Far fewer travel down the phloem (food-conducting system, on the outside of stems/ trunks, just under the bark). Very few travel in both systems, Orthene does and it's what makes **Orthene** so effective for any pest. **Alliette** is one of the few available **fungicides** that travels up and down plant systems. It is the fungicide equivalent of the pesticide Orthene.

Translaminar pesticides – They enter leaf tissue and are transported within leaf tissue but end up concentrated in the surface layers of the leaf.

They are most effective on pests that chew or mine leaf surface. NOT AT ALL effective on pests that feed on flowers, eg Sevin does not work on flower chowers.

Bactericides – Copper compounds (not for acid media, fatal to Dendrobiums, or pots with a plastic foam plug in the centre - are rendered instantly toxic). Junction (46%/15% mixture of Kocide and Mancozeb) - Cold-stressed plants need it to stop rots. Antibiotics such as tetracycline work well, but tetracycline will eventually be taken off the market!

Effective Management Isn't Easy and isn't Fast

1. Minimize Pesticide Use- Boisduval scale (the white scaly nemesis of cattleyas) is quickly rendered resistant to Malathion. Resistance is inevitable

2. Avoid Persistent Applications. Simply put – if it's NOT working – STOP

3. Avoid Tank Mixes – it builds up resistance to **all components**

4. Use Long Term Rotations – of remedies with alternate modes of action. Conventional Wisdom is one application per rotation, but using any one chemical for two or even three INSECT GENERATIONS is more effective. Spraying every Saturday is less effective.

5. Include Pesticides with non-specific action modes. Insecticidal soaps and horticultural oils smother. Azadiractin (NEEM extract) is NOT non-specific, it is an anti-feedant. Pests go where it is not. Eventually a race will develop that does not mind the taste.

6. Integrate Chemical with Biological Controls

Read labels very carefully – at least one biological control involves weakened strains of mosaic viruses!!!

One effective biological control is an emulsion of fungal spores of a fungus that specifically attacks insects. The spores land on the insect exoskeleton, germinate and penetrate the exoskeleton. The fungus then continues to grow consuming the living insect from the inside out. When the fungus reproduces, the fruiting bodies penetrate the exoskeleton and appear as white fuzz on the outside of the dead insect. Because these fungus-covered dead insects appear to be several times larger than they were in life and are bright white in color, this stuff is commonly called the "White Death" in fungicide circles.

Be careful that ants don't protect the pest against the biological control you introduced. While ants do no direct harm to your plants they farm aphids, mealybugs and scale and will move their "farms" out of harm's way only to return them when the threat has passed.

Vapona strips may not be available anymore because they are very toxic. They contain dichlorvos; an exceedingly toxic but effective compound. To get rid of scale insects or mealy bug put the plant, pot and all, in a plastic garbage bag with an opened Vapona strip overnight. After about 24 hours open the bag outside with your nose turned as far from the open top as possible. More than one treatment will be required but it does work. As with anything in a closed plastic bag, be careful your plant doesn't cook.

Merritt is a nicotine derivative and works quite well on scale insects and mealy bugs. You may need a license to purchase it. Similar products include Marathon and the commercially available Imidacloprid containing products. The toxicity of nicotine is the basis for insect home-remedies that involve the preparation of a "tea" made from chewing tobacco.

Know Your insect's life Cycle

Approximate period (in weeks) for one generation of common insects or mites under warm and cool conditions

Insect/Mite Group	Warmer(~75F)	Cooler(~65F)
Aphids	1	2
Spider Mites	1	2
Thrips	1	2
Leafminers	3	4
Whiteflies	3	4
Mealybugs	1-2	2-4
Scale	1-2	2-3

Understanding your pest's lifecycle is part of the key to the pest's control

Choice of control mechanism

Timing

Take the lowly **aphid** for example – no armor, feeds on plant juices, should be easy to eradicate. Right?

Guess again!

Spring/Summer/Early Fall – all female and pregnant

Telescoping generations –even the unborn babies are pregnant females!

If the colony is threatened, the next generation of progeny have wings and will move the colony.

Eggs are impervious to pesticides commonly available to the hobbyist.

Also at temperatures below about 60F aphid females bear live male young. These males mate with the available females who then lay eggs that are very hardy. At the third or fourth day over about 60F these eggs will hatch. This is

why you often see aphid colonies that suddenly seem to appear out of nowhere but have no wings. They were there as eggs, left there last fall, waiting for warm weather to start the cycle all over again.

The only good news: Recent studies seem to indicate that aphids do not spread virus. Thrips and cockroaches **do**.

Fleas have a dormant stage too and it can last for years! Movement triggers hatching there.

Hatching male **mealybugs** mate in one day, but can survive for months in suspended animation

Life cycle and habitat make mealybugs and scale particularly difficult to eradicate.

Longtailed mealybugs and orchid mealybugs are the most common species.

Mating takes place so early after hatching that it was once believed that all were female and reproduced parthenogenetically.

Mealybugs can survive for significant periods in cracks and crevices in benches. See below for roots.

Since eggs of many pests such as **scale insects** survive the mother's death, clean plants first, then spray.

They use the traits listed below to escape death:

Wax coating

Airborne crawlers - they cannot fly but are so small that they can be carried long distance on airborne dust and other material

Eggs that survive mother' death

AND –

Both **mealybugs** and **scales** infest roots as well as the rest of the plant

Especially in the case of epiphytes

If you use only a contact pesticide, you don't touch plants on the roots.

Likewise, a phloem-transported systemic is useless. You need a true systemic such as Orthene that travels in both xylem and phloem.

Whiteflies:

Simple suckers

feed on plant juices

unfortunately feed on both foliage and flowers

Our friends the lowly thrips:

Very dangerous pest

Very few thrips are necessary to spread a virus infection

Feed on both flowers and foliage, especially soft new growth

Xylem systemics are useless on a flower infestation

Likewise, a phloem systemic is useless on a foliar infestation

According to one of our former judges, Greg Warner, a formulation containing **resmethrin** does in thrips really well - Commercial names for products containing resmethrin include Chrysron, Crossfire, Pynosect, Raid Flying Insect Killer, Scourge, Sun-Bugger #4, SPB-1382, Synthrin, Syntox, Vectrin and Whitmire PT-110. The US EPA allowed reregistration of resmethrin as late as 2006 but it may no longer be available in Canada. Resmethrin is one of a family of compounds called pyrethroids that are derived from, most commonly chrysanthemums (for pyrethrum *Tanacetum cinerariifolium* and *T. coccineum*) They are effective but kill as a stomach contact poison. It's this presence in chrysanthemums that is the basis of the home-remedy involving a tea made from chrysanthemum leaves and flowers.

A true systemic active in both xylem and phloem systems such as **Orthene** will be effective

Mites:

Plant mites feed on chlorophyll and that is why they make leaf surfaces silvery and slightly pitted.

Typical pesticides are useless

Translaminar pesticides are more effective

The old Kelthane was very effective, but the new version is much less effective. Chemically kelthane is called Dicofol and it is one of the

intermediates in the production of DDT. The old Kelthane contained significant traces of DDT while the new Kelthane product has been cleaned of those.

Useful pesticides available at least in the USA are **Avid** (the most effective), Floramite, Hexagone, pylon, etc.

Beware of the **tarsonemid mites!** These mites reside in the soil, but come up to suck on buds and cause the buds to drop. Paphiopedilums are especially badly affected by this mite.

Another bad mite is the false spider mite) or *Tenuipalpus pacificus* (NEW GENUS - THIS USED TO BE BREVIPALPUS SO IT'S NOT JUST ORCHID PEOPLE WHO ARE DEALING WITH NEW NAMES). It is extremely small, a translucent green and barely moves. But the devastation it causes on succulent or thin-leaved orchids is extreme. They seem to prefer mature leaves and render them full of pits. Infested plants drop affected leaves in desperation. Keep the humidity high to discourage this and other mite pests. Other species are a translucent peach. Predatory mites are mites you want to have around so be careful with miticide applications (what did I say earlier about prophylactic spraying?). These mites eat their pathogenic brethren. How do you tell a pathogenic mite from a predatory mite since you can't ask them? Predatory mites move really, really fast - for a mite that is.

Diseases

Even more difficult to key out, since

Many different problems exhibit similar symptoms

Most fungicides are useless against bacteria and vice versa

Infections are extremely difficult to eradicate

Infections tend to spread extremely rapidly.

Note: Don't confuse mesophyll collapse with something caused by some pest or disease. A few hours to a few days after being exposed to low temperatures (low is relative. If plants are grown hard, low might be close to freezing or in some cases as low as **29F (-1.5C)** or lower while if you grow very warm and soft, low can be the

40's or even warmer depending on how fast the temperature changes), phalaenopsis leaves develop irregularly channeled mostly white pits and the centers of the biggest pits and edges of the leaves can turn black. The cold killed the layer of tissue just under the epidermis or skin and since it contains the cells with chlorophyll the tissue turns white. The most exposed leaves will be affected most. Susceptibility varies with the background of the plant although some popular white and pink phalaenopsis hybrids are particularly susceptible.

Another environmental damage is **sun burn**. Again on phalaenopsis leaves it will bleach out rounded spots located on the most exposed surface or on the most tender area. Since the youngest part of a growing leaf is near the base, these spots will be low on the leaves if the leaf has not stopped growing. As the leaf matures, the damaged area will move further out from the crown. On mature leaves the damage is often near the middle where the leaf begins to bend. As the burned spot dies, it may turn brown and if not watched carefully, may acquire a secondary infection on the damaged tissue.

Phyllosticta infection can easily be confused with a virus infection. The slide showed an oncidium alliance leaf with a thin slender shape. The blade was covered with very narrow elongated fusiform lesions that were composed of black spots connected somewhat by brown tissue. The lesions were all arranged parallel to the veins. The whole lesion dries out to a brown, papery consistency in old lesions. Treat it with a fungicide.

Virus infection symptoms are different for different viruses and the same virus will elicit different symptoms in different genera as well as different systems if it is the only virus present or involves a co-infection of multiple virus genera.

Tobacco mosaic virus lesions on the same type of oncidium alliance leaf discussed in connection with a *Phyllosticta* infection were irregularly arranged circles of bands of (necrotic) browned tissue around a green centre and with a black spot in most centres. There was no yellow halo around the lesions. On a *Cattleya* leaf this virus produces a reddish discoloration and reddish spots and lines, in other genera it may produce

chlorotic and necrotic spots, in *Epidendrum* it shows as chlorotic spotting.

Anthracnose looks almost the same as Tobacco mosaic virus lesions on a *Oncidium* described above, but the lesions have a yellow halo and the interior of the circular lesion is brown, not green.

In white phalaenopsis, co-infection by **Odontoglossum ring spot** and *Cymbidium* mosaic results in a severe manifestation of symptoms including lines of streaks, sunken lesions that look much like mesophyll cell collapse and often stunted growth while if only one or the other virus is present plants are very often symptom-free.

Bean Yellow virus causes distortion of young leaves and rectangular, silver checking between the veins of the leaf when the leaf is viewed backlit. As the leaf matures, the silver checking may become very difficult to see but the distortion remains.

Bacterial Infections

At least three different genera of bacteria cause crown rot on, mostly, phalaenopsis. All of these bacteria species are exceedingly infectious and spread rapidly from plant to plant either by splashing water or direct contact with the liquid excreted by the infection. Simply touching this liquid and then touching an uninfected leaf can spread the disease.

Erwinia species have a dead fish smell. They cause a large rapidly spreading tissue collapse. The colour of the affected tissue is light brown with an almost yellow exterior band on the lesion. A very different species of *Erwinia* infects *paphiopedilums* causing a dark brown lesion at the bottom of mature leaves that slowly spread to cause the death of the leaf. If not treated, this will work its way up the plant from the bottom-most leaf until it causes the death of the plant.

Infected tissue **MUST** be removed

Susceptibility dramatically increased by combination of high night and high day temperatures and high humidity.

Antibiotics are effective if you can use them.

Junction (46:15 mixture of copper hydroxide (Kocide) and Mancozeb) is very effective

Cinnamon is only somewhat effective. It is more effective for fungal rots.

Other common bacterial infections are:

Phytophthora (fye-toff-THOR-ah) lesions smell like the water in a vase when you've left cut flowers ripen too long! The lesions are also brown, but have a black tinge to it and have an irregular black edge and an indistinct yellow suffusion beyond the lesion.

Pseudomonas (sue-doe-MOAN-ahs) lesions are similar to Phytophthora, but less black and with a more distinct yellow halo. The lesion produces a lot of exudate carrying numerous bacteria. Like the other two infections, infections by pathogenic pseudomonas species have characteristic foul odors.

Each of these is favored by different combinations of stress factors but it is important to remember that stress opens the door to any of these diseases. Plants that are grown soft will be more susceptible to infection and the importance of cleanliness cannot be stressed enough.



COMING EVENTS

2012

Nov 10: The Essex County Orchid Society will be holding their third Orchid Show and Sale. The one day event will take place at Colasanti's Tropical Gardens, 1550 Road 3 E. Ruthven, ON. For more information, please email: Juliette St. Pierre at canadel@cogeco.ca
"<http://www.essexcountyorchidsociety.webs.com/>"

2013

Feb 16-17: The Southern Ontario Orchid Society Orchid Show at the Toronto Botanical Garden, Edwards Gardens. "<http://www.soos.ca/>"

Feb 22-24: Orchid Society of Alberta "Orchid Fair", at Grant MacEwan College South Campus, 7319-29 Avenue, Edmonton. For more information, "<http://www.orchidsalberta.com/>"

Mar 22-24: The Vancouver Orchid Society Annual Show at the Van Dusen Botanical Garden, 5251 Oak St., Vancouver BC.
"<http://www.vancouverorchidsociety.ca/>"

March 22-24: The Manitoba Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale at the Assiniboine Park Conservatory. The COC will also be having its Annual Meeting. For more information, please email: secondvp@manitobaorchidsociety.ca
"http://manitobaorchidsociety.ca/main_mos/index.php"

Get your spring show dates, with details, to the COC editor.

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COCnews

The purpose of COCnews is to inform members of the meetings, policies of the COC, to profile members, and to provide technical information regarding happenings, trends and techniques in orchid cultivation across the country and around the world.

We welcome your suggestions and contributions. Deadline for each issue is one month before the issue dates previously announced.

Recipients of this newsletter are strongly urged to pass a copy on to other members of their society.

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Please email the Editor your show information: date, etc.