



Manitoba Orchid Society

For the Love of Orchids Newsletter

Next Meeting: 17 November 2013
Canadian Mennonite University, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd.
(SW corner of Shaftesbury Blvd. and Grant Avenue)
General Meeting: Conference Room,
Novice Meeting: Room C09

Novice Programme

Bryan Emery will speak on a topic of
interest.

Starts at 1:00PM

Regular Programme

Pleurothallids by Bryan Emery.

Starts at 2:00PM

No selling of plants by members at the November meeting.

Bring Plants for Show & Tell

**Goodies will be provided by Darlene Moar, Roswitha Nowac, Joan
Heshka and Ann Yewish.**

Website: <http://www.manitobaorchidsociety.ca>

Executive email: president@manitobaorchidsociety.ca

Newsletter email: newsletter@manitobaorchidsociety.ca

Submission deadline 21 November 2013 for December 2013 Issue



November 17: Bryan Emery from Vancouver Island will be speaking on Pleurothallids. He will also be doing a presentation for the novice meeting (topic TBA). He will be bringing plants for sale. No selling of plants by members at the meeting.

December 8: Christmas potluck. Note the meeting starts at 3:00, an hour later and a week earlier than usual.

AOS Calendars

If there is sufficient interest, Kyle Lucyk will place an order for members wishing to purchase. Always informative and usually beautiful! Sign up at the November meeting or email kylelucyk@gmail.com

**MOS show & sale
Rainbow of Colors**

March 20-23, 2014.

Hearts & Flowers

If you hear of any good/bad news regarding members or their families, please call Leah Paluch and let her know.



To Fraser Cameron, Dave Moran, Debbie Robb, Garth Ball, Kevin Duerksen & Rob Parsons for conducting a successful auction.



The Executive encourages all members to provide feedback, comments, suggestions by filling out a comment sheet available from the Secretary at all General Meetings.

All signed comment sheets should be returned to any member of the Executive. They will be reviewed at the next Executive Meeting and you will be informed of follow-up action taken.

2013/2014 Executive

President Fraser Cameron
 Past President Dave Moran
 1st V.P. Kevin Duerksen
 2nd V.P./Show Chair Wendy Chaytor
 Treasurer Garnet Ward
 Secretary Leah Paluch

Membership Gary Jaworski
 Social Eva Slavicek
 Public Relations Beverley Pukalo
 Special Orders Debbie Robb
 AOS/COC Rep Kyle Lucyk
 Library Ewa Kurnicka
 Newsletter Robert Parsons
 Webmaster Gary Jaworski
 Draws and Raffles vacant

GROWING AERIDES INDOORS by *Lanny Chow*

Aerides is an orchid genus that belongs to the Vanda alliance that contains spectacular species which are truly worthy of belonging in any orchid collection. They are mainly distributed from India to SE Asia through the Philippines. All species have a vine-like growth habit that can range from a few inches up to 3 meters or more and send out multiple flowering spikes that cascade over the leaves. All Aerides flowers have forward curving long spurs and all species are highly fragrant. Colors are in combinations of white, rose, yellow, green and fuchsia with various degrees of spotting and blushing. Species are divided into two categories: the larger species with tall vine like growth (*odorata*, *falcata*, *houlletiana*, *lawrenciae*, *quinquevulnera*, and *crispum*) and midsize to small stubby species (*rosea*, *multiflora*, *krabiensis*, *flabellata*, *leeana*, *rubescens*, *crassifolia* and *maculosa*).

Light: All species require medium to high light. Indoor, they can be grown at bright south, southeast or southwest facing windowsills or under high intensity discharge lights. All can take full sun from fall to spring, but may need some light shading with a sheer curtain during the summer time, especially from 11am to 4pm.

Potting: Due to the tall growth, most species are best grown in a large clay pot or wood basket filled with large lava rocks and tied to a wooden or tree-fern pole for support as they will throw out abundant aerial roots along the tall vine. If the plant gets too tall you can do top cutting in the spring, making sure the cutting has at least 3 – 4 active roots. The bottom part will send out new keikis in no time. Smaller stubby species can be potted in small clay pots or mounted on a piece of cork or log. They like lots of air movement around their roots, so make sure you don't clutter inside the pot or basket with too much medium.

Watering: Like their big cousin Vanda and Renanthera, Aerides loves high humidity and lots of watering, at least once a day from spring to fall. You can feed with a balanced fertilizer 20-20- 20 on every second watering, with heavier feeding during the more active growth months of spring and summer. To water, I simply submerge the whole plant in big bucket for a few minutes, take it out and tilt the water out from the crown of the plant and let it drip.

Temperature: All species are intermediate to warm growers, but plants are more robust in the warmer end of temperature range. Summer night temperature is around 18-20°C with a winter minimum temperature of 14-16 °C.

Flowering: In cultivation all species can flower any time of year, with heavier blooming from late winter through early summer. The flowers last about 3-4 weeks. Although they only bloom once a year, under optimum condition they can bloom for a second time. Most make up for their annual flowering with abundant blooms and multiple spikes. Species such as *rosea*, *multiflora* and *crispum* frequently branch on their flowering spike.

Recommended Species

Aer. crassifolia: short stubby growth plant to about one foot with rigid short leaf. Flower is about 1-2" across and is white blushed with various degrees of pink and has a large open lip, spotted and/or streaked with dark pink.

Aer. falcata/houlletiana: long vine like growth plant that can grow up to 1 meter or more, but is usually under half that size if grown indoors. Flower is about 1 – 1.5" across and white in color with pale rose blush and single dark pink streaked lip. *Aer. houlletiana* is similar to *falcata*, but the flower is pale yellow to egg-yoke instead of white.

Aer. rosea/multiflora: smaller compact growth with purple spotted leaf. Flower is pale rose with some spots and pointed lip. *Aer. multiflora* is similar and has darker fuchsia blushed blooms with bolder spots. Plant is stubbier with longer rigid leaf. Both species regularly send out branching flower spikes.

Aer. crispum: similar to *rosea* with flowers twice as big and with a large saddle shaped lip. Color is rose with a few dark pink spots and like the above species, it produces branched spikes regularly.

Aer. lawrenciae: If you like a large plant and large flowers, this is for you. Due to its size, this species is best grown in a greenhouse or sunroom. Flowers are 2"+ and white tipped with fuchsia and a dark fuchsia lip that is not fully open. Spikes can carry over 30+ blooms and nothing can beat its impressive display.

Taken from the April 2010 issue of the newsletter of the Foothills Orchid Society

Orchid Ailments

Leaves

Yellowing Leaves:

This is a normal aging process if only old leaves on backbulbs are involved. If newer leaves yellow and soften, look for:

- too much light
- low temperature
- lack of nitrogen (especially in bark)
- loss of roots

Blackened Areas on Leaves:

The sudden appearance of brown then black areas on exposed surface of leaves on a bright, hot day, may be sunburn. Check shading; if blackened areas increase in size, it might be bacterial or fungal disease. Cut off diseased area, treat with fungicide such as natriphene, isolate plant, and dry it off.

Shriveled Pseudobulbs:

A sign that the plant is losing water content, it can be caused by:

- low humidity;
- underwatering, dry medium;
- loss of roots.

Blackened Tips or Ends of Leaves:

This could be caused by:

- overfeeding, especially in cymbidiums -- cease fertilizing and flush plant thoroughly with plain water;
- excessive soluble minerals in water -- have water analyzed;
- leaf dieback, a fungal infection -- cut off blackened areas and treat with fungicide.

Brown or Black Streaking or Mottling of Leaves:

This could be a virus infection. Send a leaf to your nearest agricultural experiment station.

Small Spots on Leaves, Reddish Brown Turning Black :

Probably a fungus infection favored by warmth, high humidity and poor light. Reduce humidity or dry off affected plants and treat them with fungicide.

Flowers

Deformed Flowers:

If deformed flowers are produced each year by a plant, it is probably inherent. Destroy the plant. An occasional deformed flower can be caused by:

- high temperature and low humidity when buds were developing;
- mechanical or chemical injury to bud;
- nonrecurrent and unexplained anomaly in bud development;
- virus infection. Isolate plant.

Rapid Wilting of Flower:

If dorsal sepal wilts or dries early or entire flower "goes to sleep" shortly after opening, it could be caused by:

- air polluted by ethylene or other gas;
- too sudden a change in climate;
- pollination by an unknown pollinator.

Spotting of Flowers:

- Light brown or pinkish dots and spots on flower after opening usually indicate fungus, Botrytis, or sooty mold. Reduce humidity, increase ventilation or air movement, remove spotted and old flowers from greenhouse.

Punctures in Flowers:

Denotes presence of:

- aphids, soft-bodied sucking insects; or
- thrips, small chewing insects.

Spray with malathion.

Bruises on Flowers:

- Either mechanical damage or red spider mites.

Chewed or Eroded Flowers, Buds or Roots:

Shows presence of:

- slugs or snails -- use dust or bait; or
- cockroaches -- use diazinon or Sevin on ground, on plants and pots.

Color mottling of Flowers:

- This could be a color-breaking virus. Isolate plant and get an experienced opinion; destroy the plant if virus infection is confirmed.

Roots

Loss of Roots:

Numerous causes, difficult to diagnose:

- overwatering;
- black rot, an infection of Pythium. Soak in natriphene solution;
- slugs or snails. Dust with metaldehyde;
- excessive salt content of water;
- potting medium old and broken down. Repot after soaking plant in natriphene solution.

Entire Plant

White Cottony Mass or Gray, Brown, Blackish Crust on Underside of Leaves, on Flower Stem, in axils of Leaves, etc.:

- Mealybug or one of the many scale insects. Scrub with soft toothbrush dipped in malathion. Spray greenhouse regularly with malathion.

This text is reprinted from Growing Orchids, the 1993 Revised Edition of the American Orchid Society Handbook on Orchid Culture.



Minutes - Manitoba Orchid Society General Meeting October 6, 2013

Recorder: Robert Parsons

1. Call to order:

Fraser Cameron called the meeting to order at 1:02 P.M. He informed those present of the illness of Leah Paluch's father, hence her absence, and the Society's thoughts were with the Paluch family at this time.

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

Darlene Stack moved the acceptance of the minutes, as published, of the September meeting. Seconded by Dave Moran. Carried.

3. Financial report: Garnet Ward

Garnet was absent. No report.

4. Programs: Kevin Duerksen

November will be Bryan Emery. He will speak on Pleurothallids and handle both the novice and general meetings and will be bringing plants for sale.

December is the Christmas potluck.

Asked for volunteers to run some of the novice meetings and for billeting judges and guest speakers

5. Show Chairperson Report: Wendy Chaytor

Wendy was absent but sent a report. She has confirmed dates with Terry Kennedy for the show for the next four years. Kyle is still looking for judges for this year's show, but said to be getting close to a slate.

Looking for a volunteer to look after the lunchroom duties and for someone to handle the show book. Sent a survey to ask members their opinions about show banquet options.

6. AOS/COC Representative: Kyle Lucyk

Kyle was absent. No report.

7. Hospitality: Eva Slavicek

Eva asked for volunteers for goodies for November. Darlene Moar, Roswitha Nowac, Joan Heshka and Ann Yewish volunteered.

8. Library: Ewa Kurnicka

Ewa was absent. No report.

9. Public Relations: Beverly Pukalo

No report.

10. Membership: Gary Jaworski

Gary advised that at sign in, we have approximately 70 members.

11. Newsletter: Rob Parsons

No report.

12. Website: Gary Jaworski

Gary reported some technical difficulties with updates, but was reasonably confident they would be corrected soon.

13. Special Orders: Debbie Robb

Nothing definite to report, but tentatively thinking of an order with Paramount Orchids.

14. Unfinished business:

Rob Parsons read the proposed motion regarding the formation of the new executive position, Draws and Raffles, and moved its acceptance. Seconded by Gary Jaworski. Carried.

15. October Annual Auction

16. Adjournment:

Motion by Fraser to adjourn at 4:28 P.M. following the completion of the auction.

Note: Minutes of the Executive Meetings are available to be picked up at General Meetings on request from the Secretary.