



The Calypso

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The Newsletter of the Greater Lansing Orchid Society

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INDEX

- 2 President's Message / GLOS Calendar
- 3 July Picnic Info & Map
- 4 May Membership Meeting Minutes
- 5 GLOS Awards 23-24
- 6 GLOS June Board Meeting Minutes / Orchids in Cyberspace
- 7 Membership Year / GLOS Treasurer's Report / AOS Corner
- 8 Cultural Notes
- 9 Cultural Notes, continued
- 10 Ohio Valley Orchid Fest
- 11 Vendor Ads / Various GLOS Notes
- 12 GLOS Membership Form

CALYPSO DEADLINE:

Aug 19 for the Sept '24 issue

The purposes for which the Society is organized are to create an awareness of orchid culture; to foster the preservation of native species of orchids; to support research and development of orchid culture; and to hold meetings, lectures, and exhibitions.

JULY 27 : ANNUAL PICNIC & SALE *Saturday!*

We will have our usual potluck picnic PLUS our Grand Orchid Mart again this year. But please NOTE -We will be back at our regular location: Granger Meadows Park, Pavilion #1 (See included map, p.3, for directions.) Mark your calendars: Saturday, July 27th between 10am and 2pm. Guests are welcome.

If you haven't yet renewed your membership in GLOS, this is your chance -- Doris will be there to take your renewal.

Please remember to wear your GLOS name tag. If you have lost yours, please let Doris or Dot know so Dot can make you a new one. Doris will have write-on name tags at her table.

Here Is Our Plan For The Picnic/Mart:

GRAND ORCHID MART:

The Orchid Mart is our largest fund-raising event of the year. Your presence and contributions are greatly appreciated.

We will be having a Show & Tell plant table like we do at our general meetings. If you have something to show others, please bring it so others can see what you are blooming.

Other than the Show & Tell table, all plants brought to the sale are considered donations to GLOS. Please make sure your plants are pest-free.

1. Each table, or section, will be allocated for specific prices as indicated by the color of the labels, i.e.:

\$2 YELLOW	\$15 BLUE
\$5 PINK	\$20 RED
\$10 GREEN	\$25 WHITE

Live Auction table: There will be a separate table for the live auction of a few selected plants.

2. Please predetermine the prices for the plants (etc.) you bring for sale, and let the volunteer who greets you know so he/she can give you the appropriate price labels for your plants. **If you have your plants all priced before you arrive, it will go more smoothly and quickly.** Also remember that if you bring something to sell, make sure you take it home if it is unsold (or make arrangements with someone else to do that). Otherwise, it will likely be thrown away.

3. Bring your plants (etc.) between 9 and 9:30 so sales can begin promptly at 10:00.

continued on p.3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -- July 2024 -- Jerrie Nichols

I can't believe it is already July. Do you realize we have passed our longest day of the year (June 20th) so the days are already getting shorter. That Christmas is just around the corner? Weather wise I am grateful we have had very little of the 90+ degree days so much of the country has experienced. But it has been a weird summer plant wise. Most years, my cattleyas, oncidiums, and pleurothallids take a summer vacation outside. Gives me a break and the plants usually do so much better. It is a great time to clean the plant room, wash trays and shelves, and frankly rest. However, this year the night temperatures have been so erratic that I left a lot of plants inside. Oddly enough, the plants I left inside the house are growing faster and bigger than the ones I took outside. I am not sure why. It will be interesting to see what happens as all the plants must be inside by early September, which is not that far away. The inside plants may be growing very well this summer, but there is a trade off in not taking plants outside. Bugs. I treated everyone for bugs last September as I brought plants back inside the house after summering outside. Plants were bug free for months. But now, the evil things are creeping back in. I am starting to find a few mealybugs. There is a small bit of scale on one cattleya. And stink bugs.....why do I have stink bugs on my orchids? Trust me, it is way easier to spray for bugs as they are coming back into the room after many weeks outside, than having to haul them outside, spray and then immediately bring them back in.

But some visitors are wonderful! The other day, I was working in the plant room with the outer door open. Suddenly this male hummingbird shows up, cruises thru the room, and checks out my *Cattleya maxima* (dark purple) and the semi-alba *Cattleya mossiae*. I do not think he fed on either of them. He flew out as casually as he flew in. And before you ask, I never put spray on blooming orchids. After all, you never know who or what is coming to check the flowers out.

Now For News on Society Doings

Fair warning, our gigantic orchid redistribution extravaganza aka the GLOS picnic is coming up. You will find more information about this event elsewhere in the newsletter. I hope you can come. It is our biggest fund-raiser of the year and a lot of fun. It is great to get a chance to talk to everyone without a speaker intruding. Plus there will be lots of interesting and uncommon plants. Bring some of your own plants to sell or auction off. One reminder, non-orchids, especially garden plants are welcome. Just leave the bugs at home.

We will talk a bit at the picnic about our upcoming August meeting which focuses on plant abuse.... Think chisels. Saws. Hammers. Curious? Come find out all at the picnic.

WEAR YOUR SOCIETY NAME TAG TO PICNIC

Your Society relies on each member to hold unto his or her GLOS name badge. Please wear your badge to the Picnic. Let's help everyone greet everyone by name by wearing a name tag.

Doris will have the name badges at the Picnic that have not yet been picked up by members. She will have write-on name tags for visitors and for anyone who forgot his or her official badge.

(If you have lost your name tag, kindly let either Dot or Doris know. Dot will prepare a replacement for you.)

Doris Asher, Chair
Dot Barnett

GLOS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- July 27 GLOS ANNUAL PICNIC & PLANT SALE
- August 10 @ 3:00 - RePotting Experience - outdoors at the church
- September 21 @ 6:00 - speaker from Norman's Orchids in Montclair, CA
- October 12 @ 2:00 - Rob Halgren on growing under lights
- November 9 @ 2:00 - Jill Wood will speak about small, cool-growing orchids



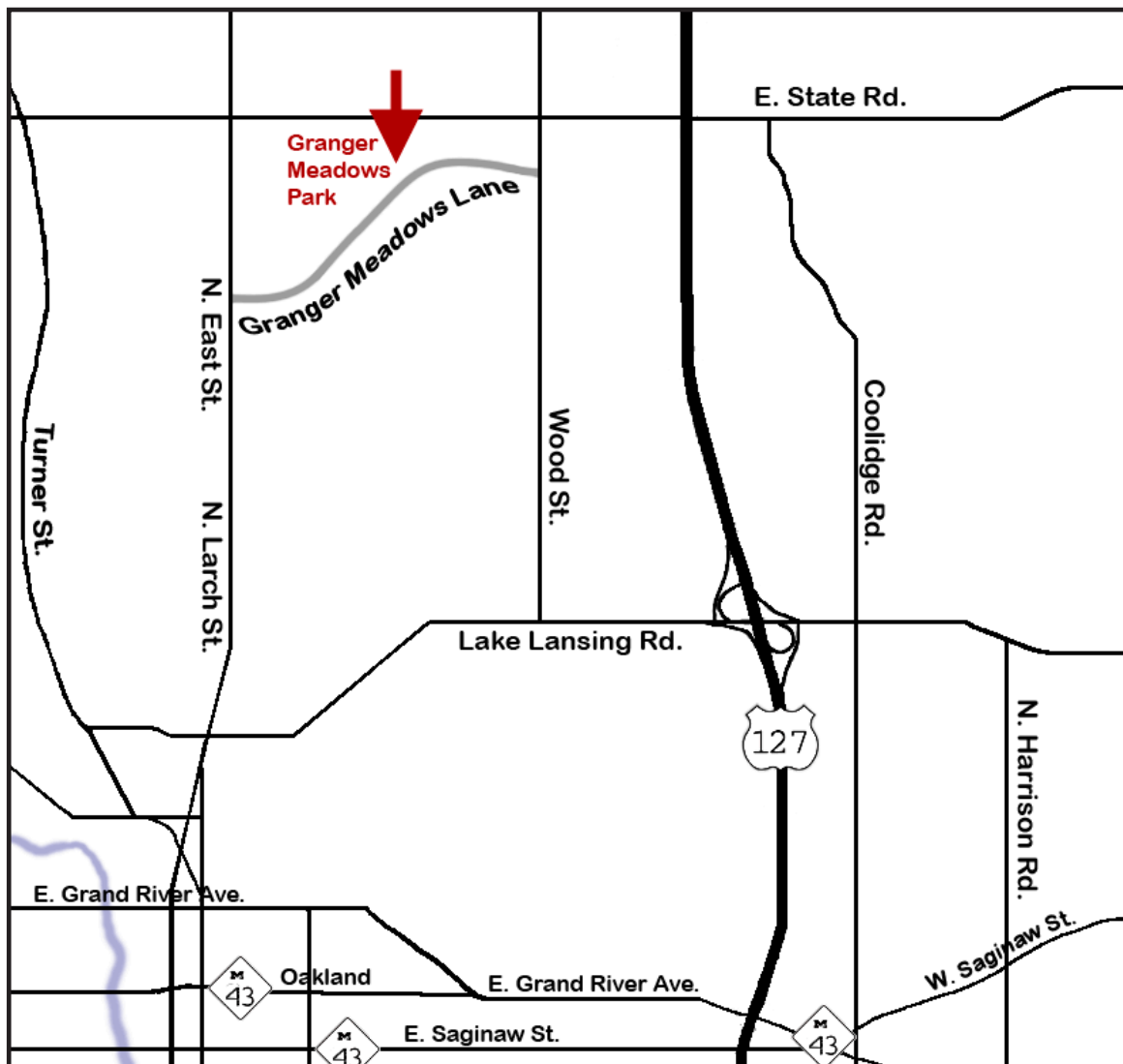
PICNIC / PLANT SALE INFORMATION, continued from p.1

- 4. Please do not pull the plants you want to buy until we announce that sales are open.
- 5. A short meeting will be held before we eat.
- 6. Lunch will begin at approximately 11am, with the live auction to begin after most of the eating is done. This year, we will NOT be including all the unsold plants in the live auction.
- 7. Before you leave, please settle up with Teresa Fowle for the purchases you made. Turn in your colored plant labels. Teresa will track who makes purchases and the amounts paid during the live auction. Paper and pens will be provided if you wish to track your purchases.

POTLUCK PICNIC

As in the past, a section of tables will be available for food and drink. GLOS will provide water, ice and hand sanitizer. Please provide your own tableware as well as a dish to share with all of us.

We don't know what the weather holds for that day, but we have reserved the pavilion for the 10am to 2:00pm hours in order to escape the heat of the day as much as possible.



GLOS MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES - May 18, 2024 -Doris H. Asher, Secretary

President Jerrie Nichols called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. with about twenty-five people present and three more logged in via Zoom.

Doris welcomed new member Wayne LeMarble, who joined at our February Show, and two visitors – Richard Miller, the spouse of member Mary Jane Miller, and Daniel Greiner, who often teaches classes for the public for us at our Shows. It was nice to make his acquaintance.

Doris explained how our raffle and silent auction work and invited everyone to participate in both fund-raising activities.

Jerrie thanked the members who provided refreshments – Christine Granger, Marilyn Porter, Laurie Rubley, Ioana Sonea and Jill Wood.

Election of Officers:

Pete Ostlund ran the election, first announcing the slate prepared by our Nominating Committee chaired by Mike Underwood, with Christine Granger and Becky Thayer : Jerrie Nichols, President; Dawn Kittle, Vice President; Secretary, Doris Asher; Treasurer, Teresa Fowle; Director, Ioana Sonea; Newsletter Editor, Dot Barnett; and Away Shows Chair, Carol Stuht. (Michele Bridges is our other Director, but, since she is in the middle of her two-year term, she does not need to run for re-election at this time.) There were no additional nominations from the floor. Bill Porter moved that we accept the slate by acclamation; Bill Cadman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Annual Awards:

This year's Awards Committee was chaired by Jerrie, with Bill Cadman and Ioana Sonea also serving on the Committee. Jerrie reported that the Committee is awarding Carol Stuht the AOS Certificate of Appreciation for her work running the art competition at our Show year after year and her tireless efforts as our Away Shows Chair, often setting up our display by herself and sometimes staying overnight to help with clerking duties the following morning. Because Carol was on vacation, Jerrie will give her her award at our annual Picnic. Pete Ostlund was the Committee's choice as Orchidist of the Year for his work each year at the Show with our vendors and exhibitors. Jerrie cited his efforts in getting our Show relocated from Michigan State University to its new home in February 2025 at Van Atta's Greenhouse and Flower Shop in Haslett. She presented Pete with a plaque and a gift certificate.

Upcoming Meetings:

1. June – GLOS does not meet in June. However, on June 15th the Great Lakes Judging Center, which meets at Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor, has Duane McDowell speaking on *Neofinetia falcata*, and GLOS members are welcome to attend. The program begins at 11 am. Contact Doris for directions to the meeting site.
2. July 27th – annual Picnic
3. August 10th – a “hand’s on” repotting program. If possible, Jerrie would like to do the repotting outdoors to avoid potting mix on the floor inside the Church
4. September 14th – 2 pm; speaker from Norman Orchids in Montclair, CA; may need to change our meeting date as we are sharing this speaker (*Editor’s note: Meeting time will be 6:00 p.m.*)
5. October 12th – 2 pm; Rob Halgren on growing under lights
6. November 9th – 2 pm; Jill Wood will speak about small, cool-growing orchids

Jerrie welcomes suggestions on speakers and topics for future meetings. The calendar for 2025 is completely open at this time.

Show and Tell Table: Several members brought in orchids in bloom. One by one, each showed us their plants and gave us information on each.

Program: At this point, Jerrie introduced our speaker, Bridget Uzar, from Carter & Holmes Orchids in Newberry, South Carolina. She spoke on “Introduction to Tropical Lady’s Slipper Orchids”. Bridget discussed the various genera of lady’s slippers highlighting important species in each genus and giving cultural tips on growing each species. Her photography was excellent.

After the program, Jerrie invited everyone to enjoy some refreshments, shop Bridget’s plants, buy raffle tickets, and bid on silent auction items.

The meeting concluded with Teresa settling up the silent auction purchases and calling out the winning raffle numbers.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30.

GLOS AWARDS, 2023-2024

Every year GLOS is pleased to recognize two of our members for their outstanding work supporting society activities. This is always a difficult decision as there are many potential candidates. We are fortunate that we have a number of people who work very hard keeping this society viable. This year after much debate, we are proud to announce that we have chosen Carol Ann Stuht to receive an American Orchid Society Certificate of Appreciation and to recognize Peter Ostlund as Orchidist of the Year.

AOS Certificate of Appreciation

We awarded Carol Ann Stuht the American Orchid Society's Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of her efforts on two different Society initiatives. First, Carol has been instrumental in maintaining and increasing the Art section of the GLOS show. We are one of the few orchid shows that has an Art section and it does get a lot of attention from the visiting public. While we appreciate the final product, Carol spends a lot of time calling various artists and art groups to get people to submit display items. She sets up the entire art display by herself, stays at the show all weekend answering visitor questions, and coordinating sales as needed. This was a very time-consuming project and we are grateful Carol was willing to take it on.

The second initiative involves coordinating GLOS' participation in other orchid shows. It is important for GLOS to participate in other shows. If we want other societies to participate in our home show, we need to make very effort to participate in theirs. Typically, the Away-show Coordinator puts together a team to setup a display at an outside show and makes sure they have all the material and help they need. This year, Carol Ann has been involved in setting up the display for every GLOS away show. Sometimes, as in Grand Rapids, she was part of a team, and other times, as at the Three Rivers show, she was the sole GLOS representative. In these cases, Carol was the only one who drove plants down to the show site, set up the display, usually stayed overnight to help the host society with judging the next morning. And of course, made arrangements to get plants back home and back with their owners. In the last few years, a number of societies in our area have quit putting on shows because of lack of help. Have quit bringing plants to our show because of lack of help. We are very lucky to have someone like Carol Ann to help keep the orchid show tradition alive.

Thank you Carol Ann.

Orchidist of the Year

We selected Pete Ostlund as the 2024 Orchidist of the Year for his outstanding dedication and efforts in supporting various society activities. His work at our show is instrumental to its success. First, Pete volunteered to remain GLOS show vendor liaison after his term as Show Chair. He handles all interactions with our vendors, and identifies and invites new vendors when necessary. Pete also designs and sets up the table layout in the sales area as well as in the show hall. He is at the show all weekend ensuring everything runs smoothly which included Thursday's table setup, Friday's intake and Sunday's tear down and final clean-up.

As important as the vendors are to the show, advertising is also critical in getting people in to see the show. Pete has been instrumental in our shift from TV ads to Facebook and other forms of social media. He helped design many of the ads and got them posted on social media sites.

Pete was also the driving force behind our efforts to find a new place for our February show. When the MSU location became too expensive, Pete took the initiative to research and locate a potential new show site and bring this information to the Board. This change to Van Attas nursery looks like it will be a very viable alternative and we thank Pete for his efforts in this regard.

In addition to all his work at our show, Pete helps out at all our general meetings setting up the tables in the meeting hall as needed.

He also is generous in sending plants out to all the GLOS show displays which are greatly appreciated.

Congratulations, Pete



GREATER LANSING ORCHID SOCIETY BOARD MEETING MINUTES June 3, 2024

President Jerrie Nichols called the Zoom meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. with the following people present: Doris Asher, Dot Barnett, Michele Bridges, Teresa Fowle, Dawn Kittle, Pete Ostlund, and Ioana Sonea.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Teresa Fowle reported on the finances of our May 18th meeting. We brought in \$206.68 – silent auction \$81; raffle -- \$46; dues \$79.68. Expenses included \$305.48 for our speaker Bridget Uzar and \$289.16 in reimbursement to Doris for miscellaneous expenses, the largest of which was \$168 to pay a two-year membership for GLOS in the American Orchid Society (required in order to have official AOS judging at our shows). Total assets for the Society: \$18,728. In August she will pay the Church for next year's meetings -- \$400.

Membership Committee Report: Doris presented the Committee's report – GLOS currently has 114 members in 102 households. Most GLOS members (88%) receive their newsletters via email – Doris copies and mails only 12 paper copies.

GLOS 2025 Show:

1. Dot will design the publicity card for our February Show at Van Atta's. We hope to have the cards available to distribute at the Ann Arbor Show the third weekend of November 2024.
2. Michele had recently visited Van Atta's and could not find any flyers about our Show. She conferred with staff at Van Atta's and provided them with an updated handout that Dot designed; Van Atta's will laminate several copies and put them on display.
3. Pete also had visited Van Atta's looking at the location for our vendors. He will confer with Van Atta's personnel to discuss the necessary number of tables and their possible configuration. For the 2024 Show, we had 24 sales tables.

Picnic: The Picnic will be on Saturday, July 27th, Granger Meadows Park, Pavilion #1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dot will draft two documents to send to the Board for editing – notice to members to appear in the July Calypso and a separate one for Board responsibilities.

Jerrie is looking for auctioneers – Mile Underwood cannot attend the Picnic. She is waiting to learn if Rob Halgren can be our auctioneer.

Upcoming Meetings:

1. August 10th meeting – Church is okay with our meeting outside to do the repotting – they will set up chairs and tables for us; parts of the meeting will be inside Church (refreshments; plant table; silent auction; raffle; etc.) – Will start the meeting earlier than the usual 6 pm to avoid mosquitoes – maybe 3 pm?
2. September 14th meeting at 2 pm – speaker from Norman Orchids; may need to change our meeting date as we are sharing this speaker with both the Ann Arbor and the Michigan societies
3. October meeting at 2 pm -- Rob Halgren on growing under lights
4. November 9th at 2 pm – Jill Wood speaking on growing orchids in a terrarium
5. 2025 meetings – Jerrie has nothing booked yet for 2025 but is looking for suggestions

Next Board Meeting: The Board's next meeting will be on Monday, August 5th, at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Doris Asher, Secretary

MICHIGAN NATIVE ORCHIDS IN CYBERSPACE

<https://www.grafphoto.com/2020/05/26/michigan-wild-native-orchids/>

<https://plantsamazeme.blogspot.com/2013/07/michigan-fens-michigan-wild-orchids.html>

<http://www.michigannatureguy.com/blog/category/michigan-orchids/>

<https://sites.google.com/site/michigannativeorchids/home/possible-michigan-native-orchids>

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/northern-michigan-wild-orchids-mynorthcom--164170348892860841/>

<http://greatlakesecho.org/2016/11/04/michigan-man-on-decades-long-quest-to-photograph-native-orchids/>



MEMBERSHIP YEAR DRAWS TO A CLOSE

Since the Society's fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30 of each year, members for the 2023-2024 year who have not yet renewed their membership for 2024-2025 are now in arrears, and this July newsletter is the last one they will receive. Annual dues are \$8.00 for an individual plus an additional \$4.00 for each additional household member. For members who want to save significant money over time, the Society offers a life membership for a one-time payment of \$80.00. Fifty-two people have already taken advantage of the life membership.

Please make checks payable to GLOS and send them to Treasurer Teresa Fowle, 206 Meyers Ave., Jackson, MI 49203. Or, save a stamp and pay Doris in person when you come to the Picnic on July 27th!

So far, 83 individuals have already paid their dues for the coming year; we need to hear from 31 individuals who have not yet renewed. (These numbers accurate as of Tuesday, June 4, 2024)

(Members who have not yet paid for the coming year have their names highlighted in yellow on the mailing label on this issue. Such members need to pay at this time so they will not miss any issues of The Calypso. The Editor will contact those members receiving their newsletters electronically to remind those who have not yet renewed to do so.)

Doris Asher, Membership Committee
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517-332-0004

(Dues form is on the End Page)

JUNE 2024 TREASURE'S REPORT - Teresa Fowle, Treasurer

Reimbursement \$341.31 for display stands purchased in June 2024 to Carol Stuht

May 18th Meeting:

Silent Auction Sales --- \$81.00

Raffle Tickets Sold --- \$46.00

Dues collected at meeting --- \$79.68

MOS Shared 4 Speaker's for May 18th meeting. GLOS cost was \$305.48

Reimbursement \$121.16 to Doris Asher for miscellaneous expenses for Doris Asher work on behalf of the GLOS.

Reimbursement to Doris Asher for the membership renewal of GLOS to AOS for two years \$168.00.

SUMMER ORCHID CARE

Summer presents challenges in the form of increased pest activity, fungal and bacterial problems in traditionally wet areas and desiccation in those areas with Mediterranean-like climates where summers are typically quite dry. Observation is the watchword for the summer months. Careful observation of your plants is the best way to identify small problems before they become big problems, and in the summer, the time between these two events is dramatically shorter due to higher temperatures. The earlier you catch a problem, the easier it is to control.

Read more here:

<https://www.aos.org/orchid-care/seasonal-orchid-care/summer-orchid-care>

**AOS CORNER**

SOME OF RAY BARKELOW'S CULTURAL NOTES — Ray Barkalow is an engineer and scientist, and has been a hobby orchid grower for over 40 years. He has owned and operated First Rays Orchids since 1994. He can be reached at raybark@firstrays.com.

THE REALITY OF ORCHID FEEDING

Whether it be in forums, Facebook, Instagram, or face-to-face, a topic that seems to always come up is "How much of what fertilizer can I feed my plants to make them grow better?", and that's a really hard thing to break folks from doing, especially beginners. Let's take a look at the reality of feeding.

First and foremost, fertilizer is a very low priority in orchid culture. The chemical processes used to add mass consume carbon, oxygen, hydrogen (from air and water) and nitrogen (from nutrient solutions). For any plant to add one pound of mass, it needs only about 5 grams of NPK fertilizer. A corn plant may do so in a week or two this time of year, but for a mottled-leaved paphiopedilum, like Paph. Shirley Amundson shown above, it may take ten years or more to add a pound of new growth.

A quick calculation shows that, on average, the paph needs to take up and process 5 grams/520 weeks or only about 10 milligrams of fertilizer per week! Think about that. If the uptake was 100% efficient, one pound of fertilizer would last over 870 years, but we know that's ridiculous.

For one, we really have no idea how much of the fertilizer solution we apply is actually taken up. Consider a bare-root vanda in slat basket. The volume of solution it takes up is strictly limited to the amount that is absorbed by the velamen at the instant of application, and that's not much. A potted plant may be able to absorb more if the potting medium in contact with the roots can hold onto some of the solution, but that's minimal. Once the solution is dry, the plant is absorbing nothing. In contrast to fertilizer, a plant needs literally tons of water to gain that pound.

In addition to that 5 grams (about a teaspoon) for fertilizer, those chemical reactions consume about 200 pounds (25 gallons) of water. That is why I'll often say that "water is the driving force for growth". Water is actually much more important than that. A typical plant can lose up to 95% of the absorbed water through transpiration. That means that in order to gain a pound of mass, a plant must take up as much as 4000 pounds - 2 tons - of water. So here's a "nerdy" tidbit for you - going back to our theoretical and fictitious "100% absorption efficiency", that means our 4000 gallons of fertilizer solution needs to have a concentration of only about 0.33 ppm (parts per million).

I shoot for 100 ppm N every week, and make sure to drench the roots and media, so am applying a much stronger solution than the calculations would suggest is needed. Because of that (and decades of experience), I'm sure I'm avoiding a deficiency, and I doubt that we would be able to discern a difference in growth or flowering if we used 50 ppm or 150. That means that the bottom line is this: pick a complete fertilizer, use it consistently and sparingly, and focus your attentions on more important aspect of orchid culture.

REPOT YOUR PLANTS

Sourced from the June 2024 issue of Orchids magazine
June 2024 - by Ray Barkalow

LIKE MY EARLIER Water Your Orchids article (January 2014), this topic may seem to be awfully basic and pretty obvious, but I believe that if we understand some of the "why" behind the "what" or "how to" information we learn, it puts us way ahead in our efforts to become reliable caregivers to our orchids. The question of "when" to repot is another that arises frequently, and we will address that, too. First, a little bit about our favorite plants.

Many of you may have heard that "healthy roots means a healthy orchid" — again pretty obvious, but do you know why that is? Terrestrial plants, with their roots buried in the soil, do the vast majority of their gas exchange processes through openings (stomata) in their leaves. Orchids, on the other hand, have adapted to having far fewer leaf stomata as an apparent evolutionary strategy to minimize water loss. Those that remain are concentrated on the bottom of the leaves, and in some cases, the plants have developed a thick, waxy "cuticle" layer, all of which shifts much of the gas exchange burden to the root system. If we stifle that, we cause stress and even death to the root cells.

Let me add a bit more about those root cells. As roots grow, they "tailor" themselves to the environment into which they are growing so that they can function optimally to support the plant, and once those cells have grown, they cannot change. We can see the implications of that with the following scenario:

A plant is potted up in nice, fresh medium, and gets great care, so it grows big and strong, sending its roots deep into the moist, airy medium. Those roots have "tailored" themselves on a cellular level to function optimally in that particular environment. Time marches on, and that potting medium starts to decompose, breaking down into smaller

Continued on p 9

RE-POT YOUR PLANTS, Continued from p.8

Particles and becoming more and more compact, holding lots of water and starting to restrict air flow to the roots. Plus, minerals from your water and fertilizers, as well as plant waste products have been accumulating in the medium as well. The environment has definitely changed, but the roots have not and cannot.

The black, vertical arrow in the image mark the nice depth to which the roots grew originally, but judging by their color and condition, they are failing in that changed environment. You will note, though, that there are new roots that look entirely different (see the yellow circle) that have grown from the ends of those old roots. Those nice, plump roots have grown with their cells optimized for that environment, even if it is an environment that is bad for the original root system.

One might speculate that the plant will therefore be okay, as it now has well-functioning roots, but unfortunately, while those newly grown root segments may be fine for that environment, the older root system is not, so will continue to deteriorate, ultimately completely separating those new roots from the plant, leading to its demise.

That is why, when considering repotting a plant, it is best to do so just as new roots are emerging from the base of the plant, and not when the plant is dormant. Otherwise, root growth will resume only on existing roots. Those new, emergent roots will grow optimized for the environment and support the plant, while the old ones are expected to eventually fade away.

Keep in mind that the greater the difference between the “old” and “new” root zone conditions, the less optimal the old roots will be, so the more critical is the timing. One can avoid such setbacks by using good quality potting media components and repotting frequently, before the medium can significantly decompose and become compressed.

RETHINKING BIOSTIMULANT APPLICATION

You are aware of my keen interest in the biostimulant, Kelpak. Throughout the 50+ years that I have been involved with orchids, and even longer if we consider tropical houseplants, I have never come across anything better than Kelpak for enhancing plant growth. Regularly supplementing my feeding regimen with Kelpak has made a significant difference to their growth, and has proven to be very effective in “kicking plants into high gear”.

The producer told me-, and I have always shared, that it could be mixed with the fertilizer for application or applied independently. As I’ve learned more about how these phytochemicals act on plants, while I continue to support that applying them independently is fine, I am changing my recommendation to “it should be” mixed with fertilizer for application. Here’s why:

Kelpak works in a wide range of ways on plants, but the simplest analogy is that of being a “plant I.V.”. Just as a football player may get a half-time I.V. injection of glucose and electrolytes to enhance his ability to play in the second half, a Kelpak treatment “injects” high levels of many phytochemicals into the plant. They are the same ones the plant normally produces for itself, but by being sourced from the outside, the plant gets the benefits of the high levels without having to expend its resources to produce them. The result; they grow, spread, and perform better overall. It is a reaction that is easily seen within weeks after product is correctly applied. There is a secondary level to this response – or maybe I should say the reason for it – that I have formerly disregarded.

Physiologically, the living, growth, and reproduction in plants is a series of varied phytochemical reactions, controlled by both internal and external stimuli. For example, if there is plenty of water at the root system (external), hormones secreted by the roots (internal) signal the stomata to open, allowing gas exchange to occur, thereby enhancing the collection of carbon from the air. Those processes can be affected by temperature, light levels & duration, and any number of cultural parameters, including the supply of nutrient ions.

If we take a moment to think about it, boosting the levels of the growth-regulating phytochemicals within plants is certain to have an effect, but if we fertilize simultaneously, we supply a dose of the nutrient-ion “building blocks” they work on, and the result should be even better. In fact, not only is that true, but biostimulants directly enhance the plants’ uptake of nutrients, as well, by accelerating ion transfer mechanisms.

Because of that, I now recommend that Kelpak be applied with your fertilizer solution. My personal regimen has evolved to:

K-Lite @ 100 ppm N weekly.

Add Quantum-Total @ 1-2 ounces/gallon to the fertilizer every 2-3 weeks.

Add Kelpak @ 1 tablespoon/gallon to the fertilizer monthly.

Until next time... Good Growing!



OHIO VALLEY ORCHID FEST

AUGUST 24 (9-5) & AUGUST 25 (11-3) 2024
www.ohiovalleyorchidfest.com

Miami Valley Orchid Society & Emmanuel Lutheran Church

4865 WILMINGTON PIKE
KETTERING, OHIO

\$3

SUGGESTED ADMISSION
PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT LOCAL MISSION WORK

PLANT SALES
ORCHIDS & AROIDS
LOCAL, REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL VENDORS

INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN SPEAKER

PETER T. LIN
DIAMOND ORCHIDS
SPEAKING ON MINI CATTLEYA AND THEIR CULTURE

LEARNING
BEGINNER LECTURES, REPOTTING HELP & DEMONSTRATIONS

FOOD & FUN
FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

ORCHID SHOW
AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY JUDGING
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
MID AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS

Cattleya loddigesii



As of today, you can register for Ohio Valley Orchid Fest on its website ohiovalleyorchidfest.com

Using links on the web site, you can get a hotel room for a night or the weekend, check out the vendors all of whom are accepting preorders and register for the show.

Full registration covers daily admission, admission to the Preview Party w/food, lectures by Peter T. Lin of Diamond Orchids, who is also a vendor selling high-quality mini-catts, admission to the hospitality tent, a goody bag and dinner before the Saturday auction.

This is a regional orchid show during the 'dog days' of summer - weeding and mowing the yard can wait while you enjoy orchids in bloom, quality plants for sale and the kinship of fellow orchid lovers.



Littlefrog Farm

Rob Halgren, PhD

PO Box 26

Holt, MI 48842

<http://littlefrogfarm.com>

rob@littlefrogfarm.com

Jump into Orchids !



SOME ORCHID FACTS

In the orchid world, a species is a plant that can be found in nature. The closest thing to a species is a primary hybrid. A primary hybrid is a cross between 2 species. All other hybrids are complex hybrids -- either hybrid X hybrid or a species x hybrid.-- from Orchids.com newsletter



ORCHID CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

The Orchid Conservation Alliance
564 Arden Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024

EIN 20-2382586

A 501 (c) 3 not for profit corporation
www.orchidconservationalliance.org

SHOW SEASON BEGINS

The Ann Arbor Orchid Festival will be November 15-17, 2024. We will be at our usual venue at Matthaei Botanical Gardens in Ann Arbor.

The Three Rivers Orchid Society plans to hold their Show again -- February 1 and 2, 2025, in the Fort Wayne Botanical Conservatory.



WEAR YOUR SOCIETY NAME TAG TO PICNIC

Your Society relies on each member to hold onto his or her GLOS name badge. Please wear your badge to the Picnic. Let's help everyone greet everyone by name by wearing a name tag.

Doris will have the name badges at the Picnic that have not yet been picked up by members. She will have write-on name tags for visitors and for anyone who forgot his or her official badge.

(If you have lost your name tag, kindly let either Dot or Doris know. Dot will prepare a replacement for you.)

Doris Asher, Chair
Dot Barnett



The End Page

GREATER LANSING ORCHID SOCIETY - MEMBERSHIP FORM

Date _____

Membership Categories: Individual (8.00) Joint (\$8.00 plus \$4.00 for each additional member) Life (\$80.00)
 Renewal New Membership Check # _____ Cash (DUES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE)

Dues are payable in May for the membership year which begins July 1st.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone (_____) _____ E-mail: _____

Beginner Intermediate Experienced Greenhouse Windowsill Under Lights Outdoors in Summer

Would you prefer to receive the newsletter via email or hard copy?

Please help the Society keep dues low – choose email delivery of newsletter – or make a donation to offset the cost?
(\$1.28/issue = \$7.68/year)

Thank you.

Please submit this form with your check (payable to GLOS) to Teresa Fowle, 206 Meyers Ave., Jackson, MI 49203

