
ORCHID SOCIETY OF MAURITIUS

Newsletter — June 2022

web site: www.orchidmauriti.us.org

CONTENU

- Message du Président
- Nos fleurs en délire
- Session d'initiation
- Guide de culture
- Le genre *Aerides*
- Programme d'activités
- Rappel aux membres



Message du Président

Il semblerait que la situation s'améliore graduellement et nous espérons ardemment que les activités de l'Orchid Society puissent reprendre bientôt.

Nous avons le plaisir de vous communiquer ci-dessous un calendrier prévisionnel, sujet a un assouplissement des restrictions sanitaires.

Vendredi 1 er Juillet - Présentation par M. Mark Lawrence, d'Afrique du Sud, sur une méthode simplifiée de reproduction par graines et une mini exposition.

Vendredi 22 Juillet - Assemblée générale au Cercle de Rose-Hill a 18h00.

Samedi 27 Aout - Soirée anniversaire de l'Orchid Society.

Samedi 15 Octobre - Exposition et vente/échange de plantes.

Samedi 3 Décembre - Rencontre festive de fin d'année.

Afin de pouvoir mener à bien ce projet d'activités, nous demandons instamment à tous les membres de se mettre à jour avec la trésorerie pour leurs cotisations annuelles.

Nous espérons que vous serez nombreux a y participer et nous vous disons à bientôt.

Members Jewels posted in January 2022



Coelogyne multiflora

Grower: J. Nieva



Tolumnia hybrid

Grower: Manoj Ramchandrar



Den, macrophyllum ?

Grower: Dharmen Isari



Vanda coerulea

Grower: Jacqueline



Paph. (raisin Jack x gloriosum) x (maudiae Vinicolor) x Charlesworthii)

Grower: Gerard Leung



V. Painter's Dream x Kulwadee

Grower: Allan Puresh



Bulb. makoyanum

Grower: Antoine Grenouille



Bulb. cocoinum

Grower: Jay Ramma



Grower: Shahrukh Bundhun-Puddoo

Orchid Society of Mauritius et sa mission : Promouvoir la culture d'orchidées

Le vendredi 17 juin restera un jour mémorable pour les 12 employés de Ducray Lenoir et Poivre Corporate Services Ltd, deux sociétés du Groupe Galea.

En effet à l'initiative de Shashi Puddoo, ces 12 personnes, toutes intéressées aux orchidées, ont participé avec beaucoup d'enthousiasme à une session d'initiation à la culture des orchidées, animée par Serge L'Ecluse et Gérard Leung.

Serge a conçu une présentation power point, spécialement pour l'occasion, afin de faire découvrir aux participants, pour la plupart féminin, les différents aspects de la culture : le mode de vie des différentes espèces et leurs besoins en ensoleillement, arrosage et nutrition ainsi que les risques de maladies et comment s'y prendre.

Gérard a ensuite pris le relais pour la partie pratique. Armé de plantes, pots et substrats et surtout de son savoir-faire, il a initié les participants à la mise en pot d'une plante.



Les participants sont repartis ravis, chacun avec sa plante mise en pot et surtout avec de précieux conseils en tête.

Space/Air by John Davy

Last time we dealt with a surface for the plant to adhere to. This time we will examine the space around our orchids, noting that this space is filled with air from which our plants will absorb carbon dioxide and oxygen (The physical space will be dealt with in a further chapter).

During the day, the carbon dioxide in the air is converted by sunlight during the process of photosynthesis in the chlorophyll of the leaves to organic matter to supply the plant with carbohydrates (sugar, starch, cellulose etc). At the same time, the plant “respires” - meaning that energy is obtained from the sugar produced. At night, only respiration takes place, thereby using the oxygen available. The old wife’s tale that you should not keep a plant in a room at night comes from the fact that it will use up the oxygen in the room which we humans also need to breathe! Circulation of air around the plant allows the plant to dry off by evaporation thereby stopping harmful fungus from proliferating. As a rule of thumb, your plants should be spaced apart so that a wandering cat can make its way around your collection without knocking the plants over!

Your plants should have enough air movement around as to be dry by nightfall. To increase the air circulation (as important during the day as well as at night), we can use a fan. Plants have stomata (tiny pores) opening mainly on the lower side of the leaves, the opening or closing of which depending on the water available. When misting plants with chemicals ensures that the solution reaches underneath the leaves in order to be absorbed through the stomata.

Orchids' leaves need to be kept cool and should not feel warm to the touch. To reduce the temperature, we can also rely on the evaporation of water from our orchid environment. As a good indication try to keep your orchids below 30 C and definitely below 35 C by applying water and ensuring that the air circulates and thus the reducing the temperature. Thus, they can absorb elements found in the air and also inorganic essential minerals and other products which we might like to spray the plants with. In some orchids like cattleya the stomata open at night mainly to reduce water loss.

The presence of air/space is also necessary in the substrate to allow the circulation of water and nutrients along the surface of the substrate tiny particles within it.

Focus on the genus *Aerides* by Gerard Leung

Aerides is a genus of tropical monopodial epiphytes that is very physically similar to Vandas and they are often confused with *Rhynchostylis* when in bloom due to the similarity the flower sprays. They mainly originate from tropical Asia, hailing from India, South China and down to New Guinea. They are appreciated for their showy and fragrant flower sprays. Among commonly cultivated species we can find ***Aerides houletiana***, ***Aerides krabiensis***, ***Aerides lawrenceae***, ***Aerides odorata*** and ***Aerides quinquevulnera***.

Number of species

List of species (Wikispecies) : [*Aer. augustiana*](#), [*Aer. crassifolia*](#), [*Aer. crispa*](#), [*Aer. emericij*](#), [*Aer. falcata*](#), [*Aer. houletiana*](#), [*Aer. huttonii*](#), [*Aer. inflexa*](#), [*Aer. krabiense*](#), [*Aer. lawrenceae*](#), [*Aer. leeana*](#), [*Aer. macmorlandii*](#), [*Aer. maculosa*](#), [*Aer. magnifica*](#), [*Aer. migueldavidii*](#), [*Aer. multiflora*](#), [*Aer. odorata*](#), [*Aer. orthocentra*](#), [*Aer. quinquevulnera*](#), [*Aer. ringens*](#), [*Aer. roebelenii*](#), [*Aer. rosea*](#), [*Aer. rubescens*](#), [*Aer. savageana*](#), [*Aer. shibatiana*](#), [*Aer. sukauensis*](#), [*Aer. hibautiana*](#), [*Aer. Timorana*](#)

Ecology

Aerides species are epiphytes or sometimes lithophytes, from 0 to 2000 m. *Aerides krabiensis* Seidenf. is found growing in full sun on dry limestone coastal rocks in Thailand. *Aerides multiflora* Roxb. is recorded as epiphytic on species of *Dillenia* L. (*Dilleniaceae*) and *Fraxinus* L. (*Oleaceae*) on river banks in Bhutan, on *Mangifera indica* Wall. (*Anacardiaceae*) trees in India, and in deciduous forest in Thailand. *Aerides odorata* often grows high in the branches of trees where it receives ample light; it is recorded from secondary subtropical forests in Bhutan, lithophytic in deciduous forests in Laos, epiphytic on *Terminalia catappa* L. (*Combretaceae*)

in littoral vegetation in Kalimantan, and from lowland forests, hill forests, sometimes on ultramafic substrate, and lower montane forests in Sabah. *Aerides ringens* (Lindl.) C.E.C.Fisch. is known from moist semi-evergreen forest between the wet and dry zone and extending into tropical savannas in Sri Lanka.

Cultivation

Most *Aerides* species are considered easy to grow. Their flowers are fragrant and long-lived, which make them popular in horticulture as cut flowers and potted plants. They can be grown in hanging baskets with minimal medium. They generally require *Vanda* growing conditions: warm temperatures, and water applied to the roots. Some may require full sunlight, The plants do not tolerate disturbance or damage of their root systems in cultivation.

The plants do not have pseudobulbs. The leaves are leathery and drought-resistant. Many of these species have a monopodial vine-like growth habit, and the plants can quickly grow large.

Distribution:

Tropical Asia, especially in the Himalayan region, Burma, and the Philippines





Aer. Korat Koki



Aer. Houlettiana



Aer. quinquevul



Aer. krabiensis



Aer. odorata



Aer. maculosa



Aer. leeana



Aer. crassifolia

References: American Orchid Society, Wikipedia, Wikispecies, Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia, Pinterest, World Checklist of Selected Plant Families (WCSP), OrchidRoots, Plants of the World Online, Les Orchidées tropicales d'Herguney

Fund Raising

We intend to appoint a small team among our members whose function would be to organize fund raising activities during meetings and at other occasions appropriate for such things.

We invite those who could volunteer to either lead or be part of the team.

Candidates for the next executive committee

The Orchid Society of Mauritius is still alive and active after 41 years of existence, thanks to many dedicated members who have generously spared some of their precious time to run the society. We are indeed very grateful to all of them. In view of the coming AGM, we invite all those who can afford it to send their application to stand as candidate, to the secretary without delay.

Membership Fees

Fees collection has been somewhat disrupted during the past two years. We need your support in order to undertake the above-mentioned activities decently. We invite all those who have not yet settled their dues to contact the treasurer.

Good luck. We look forward to see you soon

Editorial team: Serge L'Ecluse, Shashi Puddoo, Gerard Leung For Sang and John Davy.

Honorary Members: 1985 – Ms. Axelle Lamusse, Dr A. Majeed Khadaroo, MSK, DR. Philip Teckham, Dr. France Staub, Mr. Jean Brouard, Mr. Satterdeo Dabee, MBE. 2010 – Mr. Paul Jauffret, Mr. Serge L'Ecluse, Dr Claude Ricaud, CBE, Mr. Gerard Bax, Mr. Francis Montocchio, Mr. Allan Puresh. 2020 – Mr. Antoine Grenouille, Mrs. Amrita Vayid, Mrs. Chantal Chung Hung Tseung, Dr. Agness Chakowa.

Executive Committee: - President – Serge L'Ecluse, V. President – Manoj Ramchandrar, Secretary – Shashi Puddoo, Asst. secretary – Loveneesh Beedasy, Treasurer – Youvraj Khorugdharry, Asst. Treasurer Gerard Leung For Sang, Members: Christian Bellouard, Sandhya Devasagayam, Armand René, Bernard Manuel.