Diablo View Orchid Society

May 2009

At Our next meeting
May 14

Plant Nutrition by David Neal of Dyna-Gro

Known as Dr. Dyna-Gro, Dave Neal’s presentation will emphasize the nutritional requirements of all plants, with analyses of the needs of some specific orchid genera. He will talk about the elements essential for plant nutrition. When David talks about elements, he mean the real thing. He will reference the Periodic Table as he describes plant culture.

Anyone wishing to purchase Dyna-Gro products will have the opportunity after the meeting. Dave will bring primarily quart and gallon sizes of Grow, Bloom & Pro-TeKt as well as the 8 oz size of KLN. He will also bring 40 liter bags of Dyna-Rok II and neat watering cans with the easy to use pump topped bottle of Dyna-Gro attached. Members are welcome to place a specific order in advance. Anyone wanting 5 gallon sizes, should pre-order. He will accept credit cards, checks or cash. See Dave’s website at http://www.dyna-gro.com

Speaker’s Dinner will be at Manga Bene, 1170 Arnold Dr #116 (in the strip mall.) at 5:30. Everyone is welcome to attend and meet our speaker. If you plan to attend, please notify Liz Charlton at (925) 280-1671 or email dvosnews@gmail.com

Plant table will be provided by DVOS. Among the plants to be raffled, are some that were recently donated by former member Tomi Matthews.
Our speaker in April was

Amy Chung-Jacobson

Amy Jacobsen was the featured speaker for our April meeting. Amy is an enthusiastic and very knowledgeable speaker and was a delight to listen to. The topic of discussion was Laelia anceps.

Laelia anceps is native to Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras. It was first discovered by Lindley in 1835. These orchids are usually found in nature in the canopy of the oak forests. The oaks are deciduous and, with the dropping of their leaves in the winter, allow more light to reach the orchids.

There are many different color forms of Laelia anceps. If you look on the name tags the following is your key to deciphering the language.

- Mendenhall form = light lavender to dark lavender
- Veitchiana form = blue (coerulea for other orchids)
- Alba = white
- Delicata form = light pink
- Ileana form = white with pink lip
- Lineata = feathering and dark form
- Peloric = trilip
- Guatemala = small flowers with light pink round petals

Culturally, Laelia anceps require medium to bright light but not full sun. If you grow them outdoors they require a 30% shade cloth until November then no shade cloth at all for December, January and February. Laelias require frequent watering in the summer, but they require protection from the rain in the winter months when it’s cold. In their native environment Laelias get 50 to 80 inches of rain annually, but it’s almost all in the summer time. In our California environment, you need to water two to three times per week in the summer.
Membership News

The 2009 roster is now available.

Diablo View Orchid Society
Attn. Ulrike Ahlborn, membership Chair
202 Gaucho Ct
San Ramon, CA 94583
www.membership@DVOS.org

April – Is it Spring Yet?
Ron McHatton, Director of Education, AOS
http://aos.informz.net/aos/archives/archive_298721.html

Follow this link to the AOS online article about what your orchids want in April.
DVOS Commercial Members

Danville
Commercial Plant Services
David and Alice Tomassini
3 Woodside Ct.
(925) 736-7630
atomassini@aol.com

Half Moon Bay
D & D Flowers
Dennis Olivas
62 Oceanside Dr.
(925) 696-1246
dolivas@comcast.com
(By appointment only)

Livermore
Fordyce Orchids
Frank and Sue Fordyce
(925) 600 - 8406

Pacifica
White Oak Orchids, Inc.
Sales and Boarding
1204 Linda Mar Blvd.
(650) 355 - 8767
www.whiteoakorchids.com

Pleasant Hill
Diablo Orchids
Huei-Mei Chen & Gregory Mayfield
(925) 946-9740
www.diabloorchids.com

Located in Half Moon Bay 1/3 mile of Main Street off Hwy 92.
Just east of Spanish Town on Hwy 92 there is a house and firewood business. Turn onto the street between the house and firewood business and go over the bridge into the greenhouse complex. D&D Flowers is the first greenhouse on the right. If you go beyond the large dinosaur statues in front of the house and Spanish Town and you are at Main Street, you’ve gone too far.

May 2nd and 3rd 9:00 a.m-4:00 p.m.
For every $25 you spend, we will have you enter your club of choice, for a raffle plant table.
Last fall’s sale the Napa Valley Orchid Society won this prize.
Diablo View Orchid Society

May 2009

Awarded Plants in April

1st Cym. Not ‘Red Beauty’
  Akiko Ogawa

2nd C. Fordyce Prelude
  ‘Peninsula’ AM/AOS x Blc. Love
  Sound ‘Dogashima’
  Bernice Lindner

3rd V. Meg Laughlin x Agatha Motes ‘Maui Spots’
  Ken Cook

Lancer Smith:
(species or miniature)
Ophrys scolopax
  George Cooper
  (see P.8 for more about how
  George grows these)

A Reminder: Plants need to be on the show table by 7:15 pm so they can be grouped by genus.
Congratulations!

to Phyllis Arthur for winning Third Place for a quilted wall hanging in the 2009 AOS Juried Quilt Challenge and Sale. Her quilt will be hanging at the AOS building in Delray Beach until the 3rd of May.

Wild Thing
The next Board Meeting
will be on May 21st at 7:30 p.m.
at the home of Parky and Nancy Parkison.

May 2-3  D&D Flowers sale in Half Moon Bay (see page 4)
May 8-10:  Orchid Society of California Mother’s Day Sale
            (inc. CSA judging)  www.orchidsocietyofcalifornia.com
May 30:    Express Orchid Exhibition (AOS judging), San Jose
            http://events.mercurynews.com/san-jose-ca/events/show/
            86091021-4th-annual-express-orchid-exhibition
Jun 11     Sexual Deception among the Orchids by Steve Beckendorf
Aug 8:     The California Sierra Nevada Judging Center is holding a
           Speaker’s Day  http://www.csnjc.org  (P. 9)
Aug 22:    Annual DVOS BBQ. We will not hold a regular meeting in
           August.
Sept 10    Growing Orchids and Conserving Energy Year ‘Round
           by Dennis Olivas
Oct 16-18: DVOS annual Show & Sale

See what is available in our library:
www.diabloviewos.org/Library/library.htm
To check-out an item, contact
Phyllis Arthur

Refreshments
for the May Meeting

Cookies: George Cooper, Madge Fordyce, Parky Parkison, Brad Piini
Please bring baked goods CUT into serving size pieces.
Beverages: Bernice Lindner, Rita Tischler
Ice:

V. Meg Laughlin x Agatha Motes ‘Maui Spots’
Orchis morio is from what I would call ‘field turf’ in a western European context, whereas O. coriophora is from Greece. In this case, O. coriophora may have been in a wet hillside seep during winter but was totally dried out by early summer. (Books say it comes from a damp environment, but I didn't see this myself)

In any event, I grow both in a regular loam, such as you would get by digging up a patch of turf and then sieving out the grass and roots and adding a small amount of peat to lighten it up just a little.

I believe that the key is to get the seasonal changes right. The season begins in August with a little light watering. The tubers start growing after a short rest, but the new shoots are under the surface for a while. They will start growing in totally dry soil so the trick is to hold them back so they don’t start out too early and burn, but at the same time, don’t get them wet too early and and start rot.

Until the new growth comes above the surface, the objective should only to be to keep the tubers from drying out entirely. For me the shoots are visible in late Aug to mid Sept. The active growth period is fall, winter and spring, so keep the soil damp during this period. You should get a good rosette of leaves by mid winter. Let the growth continue with damp but not wet conditions until the flowers come out. My O morio are in flower right now, and O coriophora are forming buds. Let the plants flower, and then let them dry out. In CA they have never formed seed, but they did in Europe. I have been tempted to keep the watering going on too long, to try to get the maximum food into the new tubers, but there is a big risk of having the new tubers rot - the old tubers die and decompose and they may start rot in the new growth. Die back should be complete by May. At that point, I de-pot completely to separate the new tubers from the old, and separate any doubles. I then replant, and leave the pots to sleep until it gets cooler - watering starts again in Aug. O morio tends to wake up earlier; my O coriophora are from Greece, as I said, when the rain doesn't start till later. Since the CA sun is very strong, I tend to grow both in slight shade. Another useful thing is to put 1/2 inch or so of 1/4 inch or less granite chips over the top of the soil. This stops the soil from baking out. If you think of the natural environment, both plants grow in turf, so for the first couple of inches above soil line, the environment is very humid, but where the flowers form is out in full sun. Keeping bare earth damp but not wet is difficult if the soil surface is exposed to the sun.
Presents a

Speaker’s Day

Saturday August 8, 2009
Oddfellow’s Building
1831 Howe Ave at Alta Arden
Sacramento, Ca 95838

Featuring

Roy Tokunaga H&R Nurseries Understanding Dendrobiums, their variety & culture
Ron Mc Hatton Director of Education for the American Orchid Society
Simplified Orchid Genetics for the General Grower
Carlos Fighetti President of the American Orchid Society Taiwan, Fantastic Modern Phalaenopsis
American Orchid Society Judging See how we do it!

Break out sessions with culture talks on Phalaenopsis, Dendrobiums, miniature orchids, Paphiopediums and Cattleyas
Silent Auction divisions of awarded plants even FCC’s
Plants for sale with 10% of all plant sales donated to the American Orchid Society

Vendors are D&D Orchids, H&R Nurseries, Gold Country Orchids & H.P. Norton

General admission - $15.00
Sponsoring Societies (to CSNJC) or AOS members - $5.00
CSNJC is a 501 c3 organization
Diablo View Orchid Society

AOS Awards April 2009

4/07/09 - Pacific Central Judging Center - San Francisco Center
http://www.aospacificcentral.org

Lycaste Chita Sunset 'Winston', AM 81 (Lyc. Shoalhaven x Lyc. Wyld Sunset), by Amy and Ken Jacobsen

Masdevallia ignea 'Tetra Carmine', HCC 79 species, by Golden Gate Orchids

Masdevallia lucernula 'Elle Ronis', CCM 88 species, by Ron Parsons

Paph. Fumi's Delight 'Maplethorpe', AM 83 (Paph. micranthum x Paph. armeniacum). by George Stagi

Paphiopedilum liemianum 'Kate's Surprise', AM 80 species, by Mr & Mrs TW Culbertson

4/01/09 - California Sierra Nevada Judging Center - Sacramento
http://www.csnjc.org

Cattleya intermedia 'San Carlos', AM 86 species, by Amy and Ken Jacobsen

Cattleya intermedia var. orlata 'Exeter', HCC 79 species, by Amy and Ken Jacobsen

Cattleya intermedia var. orlata 'Winston', AM 82 species, by Amy and Ken Jacobsen

Leptotes bicolor 'Big Ben', CCM 87 and HCC 78 species, by Gold Country Orchids

Paph. Fumi's Delight 'Nova', AM 83 (Paph. micranthum x Paph. armeniacum), by Richard F. Buchter

Vascocenda Roll on Red 'Red Hots', AM 81 (Vasco. Crownfox Red Gem x Ascda. Peggy Foo), by Dennis Wade

4/04/09 - Tropical Plant Society of Modesto Show

Paphiopedilum Lady Isabel 'Sierra Vista', AM 82 (Paph. rothschildianum x Paph. stonei), by Curtis Gean

4/18/09 - Sacramento Orchid Society Show

Epidendrum Pacific Sizzle 'Delicious', AM 80 (Epi. Pacific Girl x Epi. Hokulea), by Cal-Orchids

Paph. Zellwood Station 'Cabernet', HCC 77 (Paph. Macabre x Paph. Red Shift), by Dave Sorokowsky

Sarcochilus hartmanii 'Moon Shadow', HCC 77 species, by Dennis Olivas

Courtesy of Kathy Barrett

Ophrys scolopax