

May 2020

<http://www.centrallouisianaorchidsociety.org>

From the President

I hope this message finds you healthy and well! I know we all would love to meet up and talk orchids, but your CLOS board has decided we would once again cancel our May meeting. There is still a lot of concern from many of our members and the stay at home order is still in effect. Therefore, in an abundance of caution, we will not meet this month. There is a lot of interest on how to properly repot an orchid, and we will still plan to have our repotting clinic next month when we meet.

Our orchid show on September 18-19 is still on schedule so when we meet up in June, we will have three months to finalize our committees and finish preparing.

I look forward to seeing everyone on Sunday, June 21st at 2:30 pm!

Eron



Meeting Time & Place

No meeting for the month of May due to Covid-19.

Central Louisiana Orchid Society Officers

President –Eron Borne
Vice President – Wilton Guillory
Secretary –Janice Upton
Treasurer – Jim Barnett
Director-Linda Roberts
Director –Al Taylor
Director- Andrea Mattison
SWROGA Directors: Linda R
AOS Representative –Wilton
ODC Representative – Andrea Mattison

Newsletter Editor – Connie Guillory
Show& Tell –Rick Allardyce

Upcoming Orchid Shows and Events

10/16/2020 - 10/18/2020	Alamo Orchid Society Show <i>San Antonio Garden Center, San Antonio Texas</i>
05/08/2021 - 05/09/2021	Kansas Orchid Society Show and Sale; Hosting SWROGA Spring 2021 <i>Sedgwick County Extension Building, Wichita KS</i>

New Orleans show CANCELED!!!!!!

Upcoming Local Shows:

New Orleans Orchid Society Annual Show
May 29st thru May 31st, 2020
Theme: None this Year
Lakeside Shopping Center
3301 Veterans Hwy
Metairie, LA 70002

Exhibit area will be closed for AOS judging on Saturday until "approximately" 12 Noon, but sales will remain open.

NOOS raffles several lovely plants, donated by our vendors, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 31st.

Sale & Show Times

Friday, May 29th: 10 a.m. until 9 p.m.
Saturday, May 30th: 10 a.m. until 9 p.m.
Sunday, May 31st: 12 noon until 4 p.m.

Vendors:

To see a list of our vendors, please [click here](#)

Central Louisiana Orchid Show

September 18-19, 2020

Friday and Saturday

Kees Park, Pineville, LA

2450 Hwy 28 East, Pineville, LA

Theme: Celebrating our Orchid Roots - CLOS 40 Year Anniversary."

Show Chair-Wilton Guillory wguill@aol.com





Frank Zachariah working in the Burden greenhouse in Baton Rouge

When should I repot?



When an orchid plant starts to grow over the edge of the pot, it is time to repot it!

Orchid plants need repotting for one or a combination of two main factors: Potting mix breaks down, often evidenced by dead roots, or the plant outgrowing the container. In the first case, a larger pot may not be required, simply replace the growing medium. In the second case, the plant may need dividing or may be shifted into a larger pot. Fresh media should always be used. A good general rule of thumb is to pot for the bottom of the plant, the root system, and not for the top, the foliage.



Let's Grow Together!

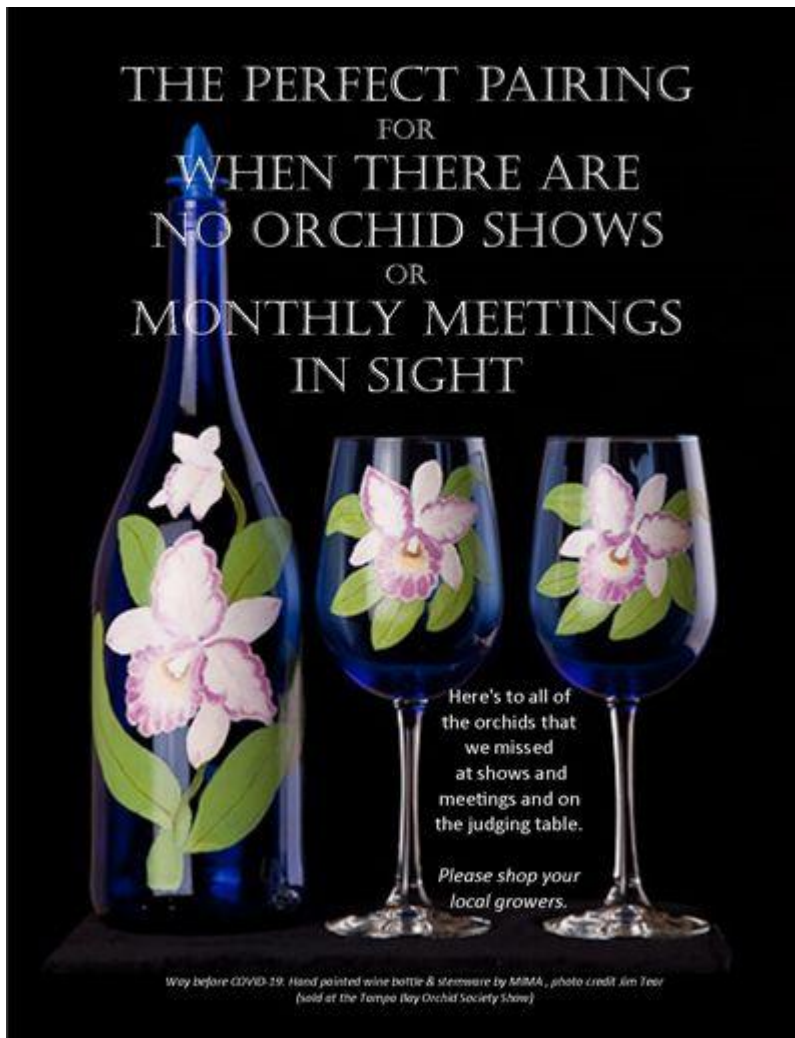
www.aos.org



2020 MAY AOS Corner – for Affiliated Societies

The AOS Corner is for society representatives and newsletter editors: Orchid societies are welcome to reproduce the AOS Corner completely, or in part, in their society publications.

We encourage use of the [AOS website](http://www.aos.org) by all members. <http://www.aos.org>



MAY Focus: Coping with Coronavirus Isolation

There is no doubt that many people have been affected by the social isolation of the coronavirus quarantine. Orchid shows and sales have been cancelled left and right. American Orchid Society official monthly judging has been cancelled. So how do we stay connected in a disconnected world?

Some societies have abandoned their monthly meetings entirely and will make a decision to meet again when stay-at-home orders are lifted. Others have gotten creative with on line meetings, highlighting and discussing their monthly bloom table, with photo entries submitted by membership, using different platforms like Zoom, Go To Meeting or similar programs.

There has been an increase in contributions to society newsletters, and more frequent updates on Facebook pages and club websites. Most societies agree that it is critical to maintain a sense of belonging at this time of social disconnect.

The American Orchid Society is doing their part to engage members and non-members alike.

Did you play along with [ORCHID MADNESS](http://www.aos.org/madness) on the American Orchid Society Facebook group page? The bracket style tournament tipped-off March 25. For 24 days in a row, AOS and Facebook group members were encouraged to vote their favorite from an original pool of 64 AM/AOS award-winning orchids. Posts were shared on Instagram and throughout Facebook. Membership on the AOS group page grew by nearly 3000 new members in a little over three weeks. The winner of each round was featured on a parallel AOS website page. The website encouraged viewers to see more awarded orchids in OrchidPro. <http://www.aos.org/madness>



The American Orchid Society also opened up all AOS webinars to non-members through the month of April. The goal was to connect non-AOS members with the AOS and ultimately, with our Affiliated Societies through new memberships.

FOR YOUR SOCIETY MEMBERS

Until we meet in person again - Orchid lovers everywhere will find ways to get their shot of orchid adrenaline.

What else can we do while we wait this out? Spend intimate time with our orchid collection. Enjoy the proliferation of blooms this time of year brings. Share your blooms on Instagram, Facebook and your society websites.

Remember to check in with us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/groups/AffiliatedSocietiesOfTheAOS/) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/americanorchidsociety?igshid=16ixfciczky01)!
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AffiliatedSocietiesOfTheAOS/>
<https://www.instagram.com/americanorchidsociety?igshid=16ixfciczky01>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/52597049839/>

What else can we do while we wait this out? Support orchid vendors with mail order purchases and gift card purchases, if offered. We want to see them come through all of this to keep us happy in our passion for orchids. The [Orchid Source Directory](#) is a good place

to start. <http://www.aos.org/orchids/orchid-source-directory.aspx>

What else can we do while we wait this out? Increase our knowledge. A new shipment of [The American Orchid Society Guide to Orchids and their Culture](#) has arrived at headquarters. Though access to our offices at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden is limited at this time, and shipping is delayed, this is the perfect time to order a copy of this publication. Bulk discounts apply. <https://secure.aos.org/Products/353-the-american-orchid-society-guide-to-orchids-and-their-culture.aspx>

What else can we do while we wait this out? Comb through the [AOS website](#) . Contained therein is more information that anyone can digest at one sitting. Choose from a multitude of drop down menus for early dining. Have questions? Here are some answers. <http://www.aos.org/orchids/orchids-question-answer.aspx>
<http://www.aos.org/orchids/orchids-a-to-z.aspx>

What else can we do while we wait this out? Read orchid tales. There are a few good orchid themed books to distract you. I suggest *The Scent of Scandal: Greed, Betrayal and the World's Most Beautiful Orchid*, written by an author local to my area, Craig Pittman. It is a story about the discovery of *Phragmipedium kovachii*. Another engaging read might be *Deadly Slipper: A Novel of Death on the Dordogne* (one in a series of four) by Michelle Wan. There is always *The Orchid Thief: A True Story of Beauty and Obsession* by Susan Orlean, and *Orchid Fever: A Horticultural Tale of Love, Lust and Lunacy*, by Eric Hansen. For a little orchid history and the obsessive hold orchids have over us, you might consider *Orchid: A Cultural History* by Jim Endersby.

Most of these publications can be found on [amazon.com](#) either in print, Kindle or audiobook. Don't forget to choose Amazon Smile. You can help the American Orchid Society simply by shopping at Amazon through their Amazon Smile program. Just go to <http://smile.amazon.com> every time you shop at Amazon. When you checkout for the first time, you will be asked to designate your charity. Type American Orchid Society in the search bar - We appear as "American Orchid Society Inc."

Webinars-Coming Attractions!



When	May 12, 2020 8:30pm EST Tuesday	May 21, 2020 8:30pm EST Thursday	June 16, 2020 8:30pm EST Tuesday	June 23, 2020 8:30pm EST Tuesday
Topic	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Australian Dendrobiums	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Growing Coelogyne
Presenter	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Fred Clarke AOS Judge, Orchid Hybridizer & Greenhouse Owner	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Charles Wilson AOS Judge, Committee Member Education and Conservation

To view **REGISTRATION is REQUIRED:** <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

*Webinar announcements are posted to Facebook, Instagram
and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter.*

If you want to view independently from home, you can join live on your computer, or mobile device.
Cannot make it on the scheduled date or time? No need to worry. Register anyhow!

ALL webinars are recorded and available to view at your leisure.

GREENHOUSE CHAT Webinars are indexed by topic for future viewing.

Send your Greenhouse Chat questions and photos to: greenhousechat@aos.org

WHAT ARE WEBINARS? An Affiliated Society may use recorded webinars for presentations at their monthly meetings. With Wi-Fi access, it's easy! Webinars are an internet-connected audiovisual presentation. You can view from anywhere that you have an internet connection via Mac, PC or even your mobile device. It's easy to find the scheduled webinars and to register on the AOS website. You will find the link here: <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>

If you do not have internet access, you can contact the AOS Education Committee, Sandra Svoboda at stillisch@cox.net and request **a program from the recorded list.** <http://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/Webinars-for-Affiliated-Societies-7-24-19.pdf> The video file with instructions for use will be sent to you. Copy the file to a flash drive or copy it to your computer hard drive

and show the webinar at the meeting.

REMINDERS

Insight for our **[AFFILIATED SOCIETIES](http://www.aos.org/about-us/affiliated-societies.aspx)**
<http://www.aos.org/about-us/affiliated-societies.aspx>

[Check out the Complete Affiliated Benefits Package](http://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/Benefits-of-being-an-Affiliated-SocietiesMember-v5.pdf)
<http://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/Benefits-of-being-an-Affiliated-SocietiesMember-v5.pdf>



AFFILIATED SOCIETY BONUS - EARN AOS MEMBERSHIP EXTENSIONS FOR YOUR SOCIETY

Affiliated societies can earn a one-month extension on their AOS society membership for each new individual AOS member they recruit. If you start now, with twelve new AOS members, your affiliated society can obtain a FULL FREE YEAR OF AOS membership! Be sure and advise new members to note their society affiliation on the printed membership form or in the comments section online at checkout.

Remember to let your society members know, we want to sweeten the deal and give them every possible reason to join AOS today! If they become an American Orchid Society member, they have considerably more resources available to help make orchid growing enjoyable and successful. *Individual society membership and AOS Membership are not the same. Although affiliated, each requires separate membership dues.*

2020 **[updated membership](http://www.aos.org/about-us/aos-membership.aspx)** rates and membership material NOW on the AOS website!
<http://www.aos.org/about-us/aos-membership.aspx>

MEMBERS can VIEW the beauty and diversity of awarded orchids in every issue of ORCHIDS magazine. Exhibits are also included in the latest awards gallery. Don't forget to check the **[most recently awarded orchids on the AOS website](https://secure.aos.org/orchid-awards.aspx)**. Members also have access to Orchid Pro, the premier tool for studying awarded orchids. <https://secure.aos.org/orchid-awards.aspx>



Cattleya Pole-Star 'Mirtha Isabel'
 (*Cattleya coccinea* x *Cattleya briegei*)
 AM/AOS (81 points)
 Exhibitor: Ben Oliveros and Orchid Eros
 Photographer: Glen Barfield
 Date: Mar 14, 2020
 Award No: 20203714 (Pictured Left)

Phalaenopsis schilleriana 'Jane'
 AM/AOS (83 points)
 Exhibitor: David A. Edgley
 Photographer: Mike Pearson
 Date: Mar 07, 2020
 Award No: 20205461 (Pictured Right)

American Orchid Society Silver Certificate
 'It Was Supposed To Be a Tabletop'
 SC/AOS (87 points)
 Exhibitor: Sarah Hurdell
 Photographer: Julie Rotramel
 Date: Mar 05, 2020
 Award No: 20204690 (Pictured Below)



CULTURE CONNECTION

CULTIVATE, to grow in a prepared medium

Visit the AOS website for a **Monthly Checklist on Orchid Care**

<http://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/may-june-checklist.aspx>

May: The Month of the Paradigm Shift by Thomas Mirenda

Conventional wisdom suggests that stability and security are the keys to successful living. Certainly in the world of orchids, huge fluctuations in temperature, humidity and light levels lead to poor horticulture. Steadiness in the environment, whether it be outside in a garden or inside in a growing space, is part of what we provide our plants to keep them growing and thriving. This is one reason why so many of us worry about what will happen if the climate changes significantly or shifts permanently. In the culture of our plants, however, there is almost always change that occurs over an annual cycle. Each respective orchid environment shifts, slightly or vastly, over time in the onset of rains or droughts, cool or warm seasons, with corresponding activity among pollinators and other symbionts.

These changes can be subtle, as in most tropical rainforests, or cataclysmic, such as boreal deciduous woodlands where practically everything changes drastically with each season. Suddenly we must think of what was once good three months ago, is suddenly bad

for the progress of our plants, and four or six months from now may be good again.

These paradigm shifts, whether subtle or severe, are most important for us to recognize as they are usually what stimulates our plants to bloom, progress and meet their true potential. If you are lamenting (or reveling) in the changes happening all around us these days, consider that the pendulum swings both ways. Perhaps a little adversity is what has been truly needed to make us progress and bloom. Personally, I have been shaken out of my complacency, how about you? Is anyone else out there feeling energized to make our world a little better?

SHIFTING CULTURE May is one of the most exciting and glorious months on our calendar. Here in the Northern Hemisphere, spring is going strong and flowers abound in the landscape. It seems new life is springing up everywhere. It is the most optimistic of times. I sincerely hope these delicious Mays will continue forever and spread the joy of rebirth as it has since the dawn of mankind. The weather is warming up, but still cool and fresh and buoyant with cooler night temperatures. This temperature differential of 10–15 F (about 5–8 C) is so crucial for most orchids to thrive. It is why I usually recommend people take their orchids outside this time of year to enjoy natural temperature differentials, rejuvenating spring rains and natural light. These are tonics for most orchids and should be exploited, at least until the dog days of summer when we might have another paradigm shift.

LIFE IS A BANQUET Auntie Mame, one of the most memorable and free spirited characters in literature, expressed this excellent truth, except that most of us do not seem to come to the table for some reason. She is correct though, in that our world offers us all kinds of sumptuous possibilities if we are willing to go out and get them. The next few months are serious “banquet time” for most of our orchids. I cannot recommend particular fertilizers or regimens, as there is no one-size-fits-all solution in orchids. Nonetheless, I encourage you to ask your local orchid friends what they are doing and try experimentation with different nutrients to see what elicits the best results for you in your climate.

MAKING ROOM FOR CHANGE Repotting season is at its peak and all orchids that have outgrown their vessels with obstreperous aerial roots all about should be dealt with around now. Think of this like buying new pants or shoes for your kids as they grow up. If you do not buy the shoes or pants, the kids will still grow but will be embarrassed at school and probably will not be invited to the prom. Make sure your plants have the space needed to grow this season’s roots and growths or you will be cheating them of their chance to bloom to their full potential, and in turn cheating yourself of the ultimate enjoyment of seeing your “chids” perform and thrive.

BURGEONING LIFE With all the plants springing up everywhere in the landscape, there are certainly plenty of vernal woodland orchids emerging too. A modicum of research will tell you where to find some local populations. Connecting with the terrific, friendly group known as the Native Orchid Conference (<http://www.nativeorchidconference.info/>) is a great way to get information about likeminded native orchid seekers. Maybe you will find out about orchid hunting trips sponsored by members near you and tag along. Whether or not you find orchids on one of these trips, I promise you, just getting out in the field can be one of the most energizing and life-affirming things you will do this spring. Who knows? It might even shift your life for the better. *(As pertinent now, as it was then - Reprinted with permission ORCHIDS VOL. 86, NO.5, MAY 2017)*

AOS members have access to over 2,050 articles published

between the years 2003 - 2009 and 2011 – 2018 through the [digital archives](#).

<http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx>

Worth the Read - ORCHIDS May Preview

- The Rest of the Story – Conservation and the new USPS native orchid stamps by Tom Mirenda
- For the Novice: Making Orchids Bloom by Ray Barkalow
- Orchids Illustrated - Cuban Orchids by Peggy Alrich and Wesley Higgins
- The Hybrid Genus Fredclarkeara by Fred Clarke
- Small-Flowered Phalaenopsis, Part 2 by Andrew Coghill-Behrends
- Affordable Benches and Flexible Growing Spaces by A'na Sa'tara

Please send your questions and submissions for the AOS Corner to

askmasc@verizon.net or affiliated_societies_committee@aos.org

Thanks for meeting me down at the Corner!

Eileen Hector, AOS Corner - Affiliated Societies Newsletter Editor

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Telephone: 305-740-2010 | FAX: 305-747-7154

Monthly Checklist for May and June

Cattleya

The last of the spring-flowering types -- those that flower from a ripened hard pseudobulb -- will be finishing, while the first summer-blooming types will be showing buds on their rapidly growing, soft pseudobulbs. Both may need potting, as signaled by deteriorating mix, this month. The spring bloomers present no problems, as you will be dealing with fully ripe, well-hardened pseudobulbs. They will be ready to root on the mature front pseudobulb and will establish quickly. The summer bloomers, will be brittle and may be in bud. Nonetheless, experienced growers know that unless potted now, they may not root later, as this type tends to be seasonal in its rooting behavior. Stake the lead growth to avoid breakage. May can still present some changing light conditions that can lead to burning of the foliage if the plants have not been properly acclimatized. Allow them to build up their tolerance to higher light gradually. Changing light and temperatures can also be the source of some frustration when trying to determine when plants need watering. While cattleyas will be entering into a period of rapid growth starting this month, they have still not built up sufficient momentum to be significantly slowed by your missing a day or two of watering owing to dark weather. As always, it is safer to err on the dry side than on the wet. It is important, though, especially to the summer bloomers. Too much shade will cause rapidly developing inflorescences to droop unattractively.



Cattleya purpurata, formerly in the genus *Laelia*, is without a doubt one of the most stately orchids to bloom in this season. © G. Allikas

Paphiopedilum

The *Paphiopedilum* Maudiae types will be well into their season now, so a careful eye should be used toward staking. Do not be too anxious to stake, however. Many of this type, if staked too soon, will develop nodding flowers that do not face the observer. It is better to allow the flowers to ripen naturally, then support the spike right below the ovary for best display. This is especially common in *Paphiopedilum* fairrieanum-derived hybrids. If you have to do something when you first see the emerging spikes, just put the stake in the pot next to the spiking growth. Not only will this help you, but you will be able to see where the spikes are, so you can continue to pay attention to their development. The multifloral types will be entering their most active growth phase, so lots of light, water and fertilizer are called for to mature their large growths. Many will be spiking in the next couple of months, so be on the lookout for the emerging inflorescences. These may benefit from earlier staking than most, as the inflorescences grow so quickly in some cases that they can be quite soft.

Again, best support is right below the ovary of the first flower. This will allow the most natural presentation of the blooms.



Paphiopedilum Maudiae types may need staking for best presentation

Phalaenopsis

Except for the latest-spiking plants, all phalaenopsis should be ready for potting or already potted. Because phalaenopsis are tropical plants, they tend to be seasonal in their rooting behavior. The critical point for potting is when new roots emerge from the base of the plant. This is absolutely the best time to repot a phalaenopsis. The summer-flowering types, based on Doritis background, have ideally already been potted and are becoming freshly established, ready to support their soon-to-emerge spikes for the summer season. Phalaenopsis potted at the right point in their growth cycle will reestablish almost immediately, with fresh roots growing into the new medium nearly uninterrupted. As soon as the flush of new root growth is seen, begin regular watering and fertilizing to make maximum use of the major growing season. Do not get over-exuberant with your watering, though, allowing water to splash between plants. This can be a source of infection for both water-borne

pathogens and viral contamination. Phalaenopsis are much more susceptible to virus than was previously thought. Take extra care to keep your collection free of bacterial and viral problems, which you can accomplish by maintaining a clean growing area.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.

Taken from <http://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/may-june-checklist.aspx>

Collectors' Item
Cattleya tigrina



Cattleya tigrina

[American Orchid Society](#), May 28, 2018

Cattleya tigrina A.Rich.



Cattleya tigrina (awarded as *C. leopoldii*) 'Michael'

AM/AOS exhibited by Bill Rogerson, photo by Rhonda Peters

One of the pleasures of collecting Brazil's bifoliate cattleyas is that with the exception of the late autumn months, there are species in bloom throughout the year providing the grower with satisfying variations in color, form, fragrance and plant habit. As I write this on the last day of June, we have had *Cattleya tigrina* plants in bloom now for couple of weeks and I have seen others at AOS judgments. The species is blooming late this year, as are many orchids, due to an extended cold spell in January. *C. tigrina* typically flowers the end of May and into June in the Northern Hemisphere - about the same time as that other Brazilian favorite, *Cattleya purpurata*¹.

Long known as *Cattleya leopoldii* Verschaff. ex Lem. and before that, *Cattleya guttata* var. *leopoldii* (Verschaff. ex Lem.) Linden & Rchb.f.. This orchid is still confused by many with *Cattleya guttata*. It is true that both have spotted flowers and a bright fuchsia midlobe of the lip, but there are more differences than similarities between the two. Identifying the two will be the topic of another essay, but for now, the easiest way to tell *C. tigrina* and *C. guttata* apart is by blooming season. *C. tigrina* flowers in early summer from a green sheath, whereas *C. guttata* flowers in late summer (or early autumn) from a dried sheath.

Cattleya tigrina was first published by Achille Richard in 1848 in the French publication, Portefeuillie des horticulteurs. The description is accompanied by a color plate that seems to clearly represent the species we are writing about here. Two years later M. Verschaffelt collected the plant in Santa Catarina and in a politically correct move, named it *Cattleya leopoldii* after King Leopold I of Belgium who was an ardent supporter of horticulture. He did not formally publish the species though, so it was

up to Charles Lemaire to formalize it and provide a description in L'illustration horticole Vol II p. 68, 1855 (although a note without latinized description appeared in Vol I of the same periodical a year earlier). Fowlie² contended that among other reasons, no type existed for Richard's description and that *Cattleya tigrina* was a nomen obscurum. Braem argued that "just because a type has not been found does not mean that it doesn't exist" and "the type of *Cattleya tigrina* is awaiting rediscovery among other sheets somewhere in a herbarium, probably in Paris". As it turns out, there is indeed a type specimen dated 1838 in the Muséum National D'Histoire Naturelle...in Paris!

Cattleya tigrina is a species that inhabits coastal swamps of Brazil from south of Rio de Janeiro south to Rio Grande do Sul. It is rarely found much above three or four hundred feet elevation. Parts of its range overlap those of *C. intermedia* and *C. purpurata* and there are naturally occurring hybrids with both species. *Cattleya* x *elegans* (*C. tigrina* x *C. purpurata*) has been occasionally seen in the trade over the years and artificially made using various forms of *C. purpurata*. There are several color forms of the species including *immaculata*, *coerulea* and *alba*, representing a dark form with coalesced spots, a pale form with bluish lip, and green flowers with white lip (lacking anthocyanin). The latter have been sold over the years as *C. guttata* var. *alba*, which they are not.



Cattleya tigrina grown and photographed by Greg Allikas

Cattleya tigrina is not for the meek; this is a robust orchid that can grow two to three feet tall and produce many-flowered inflorescences. And that is exactly what makes it so wonderful! The individual flowers are not especially large, averaging about three inches across. What they lack in size they make up for in numbers, with mature plants capable of producing 30 or more flowers per

inflorescence! The flowers have a strong spicy fragrance that I can best describe as smelling like bubblegum.

Although *Cattleya tigrina* is a large orchid, it can be grown in small greenhouses, or even windowsills, by keeping it in small pots. It may eventually outgrow its allotted space at which time it can be divided and shared with friends. A six inch pot will accommodate a mature, flowering size plant. Here in our South Florida shadehouse we like to grow large orchids, so as plants of *C. tigrina* get bigger, we eventually move them up to eight or nine inch pots. If you are growing this or other large orchid in a six inch pot or larger, it is important to allow air at the roots in order to maintain their good health. We pot in clay pots and enlarge the center drainage hole by tapping the edges with lineman's pliers. With large pots sizes, we often use an inverted net pot over the drainage hole to provide extra aeration and fill the bottom of the pot with large inert material such as landscape lava rock, charcoal or broken chunks of styrofoam packing. Most importantly, regardless of the pot size, use large size media, either fir bark or coconut chunks. Mixing in large grade diatomite or lava rock also works well to keep the pot interior from getting stale and soggy.

Cattleya tigrina will grow in the same light as your other cattleyas, although it can stand quite bright light if acclimated gradually (up to 3500fc). The only other major consideration is when to repot. Bifoliate cattleyas in general, are intolerant of stale media. They do not tolerate potting at the wrong time either. As with all orchids, the best time to repot is when there is active root growth, preferably a cluster of root tips at the base of a new lead. This does not always work out with *C. tigrina* because it flowers directly from a recently matured growth which has begun some root growth. We like to wait until a second flush of roots begins, usually a month or so after flowering. There should be active root growth in any case and some roots will be well developed. Be as gentle as possible with these longer roots and work the old media away carefully. If the media is in good condition you can leave some of it attached and merely move the orchid up to a bigger pot, and fill in around the root mass.

Fertilize as you do your other sympodial orchids and keep the temperature range between 85° and 50° F year-round, although plants will tolerate extremes for short periods.

Greg Allikas, June 2010

Taken from <http://www.aos.org/blog/orchids-issues/cattleya-tigrina.aspx>

1) formerly *Laelia purpurata*

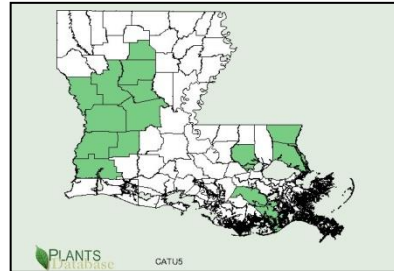
2) Fowle, J.A. 1977. The Brazilian Bifoliate Cattleyas and Their Color Varieties. Azul Quinta Press. La Canada, California. p.95.

3) Braem, Guido J. 1984. Die bifoliaten Cattleyen Brasiliens Brücke-verlag, Kurt Schmerson, Hildesheim, Germany. p.75.

Native Orchid of the Month—May

Calopogon tuberosus (tuberous grass-pink)

Calopogon comes from the Greek words meaning beautiful prominent hairs, the beard, on the lip identify the species. This species is a plant of moist areas and is most abundant in bogs. It is known as grass pink because of the long, narrow, leaves. It grows 2 to 4 feet tall, with 3 or more flowers arranged stem. The blossoms are rose-pink to pale orchid and are about 2 across.



beard. The *tuberosus*. pineland grass-like along the inches

This delicate, sweet-smelling orchid is easily recognized by the bearded lip petal and solitary, grass-like leaf.



The flower is pink to purple, 6-parted, with yellow brushy hairs on the upper petal. The inflorescence a loose, short cluster of 3 to 10 stalked flowers blooming a few at a time. It blooms in June and July.

The plant consists whitish corm giving rise to grass-like leaf basally the stem.



of a small, subterranean a single, which clasps flowering

The flowers use a mechanism to achieve pollination. Mid-way up the lip, they bear a orange-yellow hairs that resembles the pistils and stamens of land flowers, while the base of the lip is jointed. The pollinators, this ruse, land on this tuft, their weight triggering the lip to flex along its joint and to drop them onto the column arching below.

unique tuft of typical bog-deceived by downward

Calopogon tuberosus is the most variable and widespread species. It occurs from Manitoba and Newfoundland south to Texas, Florida, the Bahamas, and Cuba.

in the genus.

