

November 2020

<http://www.centrallouisianaorchidsociety.org>

### From the President

Greetings CLOS members! This month we celebrate Thanksgiving, a wonderful holiday rooted in recognizing all we have to be thankful for, even when faced with uncertainty and challenges. This pandemic has certainly effected most aspects of our lives, and of course the ability for us to meet with our orchid friends as a club.

We had an option for a November meeting, but the turnout response was extremely low so we have decided NOT to meet again this month. As of now, our meeting facility is still not available to us and we just have to take it month by month.

While we will not meet in person, like we did last month, our club will be able to participate in a Zoom presentation in conjunction with the Baton Rouge OS. This month's educational program will be on Orchid Pests, presented by Bob Danko on Wednesday, November 18, at 7:00pm. Bob is a retired USDA Entomologist and will talk about those pesky orchid problems. I'll send the link when I receive the BROS newsletter and you just need to click on the Zoom link to log into the meeting.

Another exciting event coming up on Saturday, December 12th will be the annual Short Course Workshop. Normally, this is held in Lafayette and is a one day course featuring two guest speakers and orchid judging. However, this year it will be held on-line (via Zoom) and available to all members in the state, for FREE! The two presenters will be Tom Mirenda and Courtney Hackney and you won't want to miss it. Stay tuned for more details.

Whether you are staying home or traveling to see family, I wish each one of you a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday!

Eron



### Meeting Time & Place

## **Meeting canceled for November**

Since there is no nominating committee, we need members to volunteer for club offices. VP, Secretary, Treasurer, Show and Tell, Directors. Anyone interested in taking over newsletter let Connie know. She's been in that position 10 years.

### 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

## Shreveport Judging October



John Schwarze's first AOS award on his Ctism. Portage Star x Ctism. lucis, AM/AOS 83 pts. Above Shreveport Judges with John's first award last month.







Ctsm. Doubledown Am/AOS 81 pts. Plant presented by William Caldwell



# Let's Grow Together!

www.aos.org



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## 2020 NOVEMBER 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>

**WOW!** We just finished our first ever Virtual AOS Members Meeting. It was well attended. How many of you tuned in? We listened to the ideas that each of the AOS committees has planned for the next two years. There surely is enough to keep AOS staff and its many volunteers busy.

Denise Lucero, our Affiliated Society Committee chair, presented some ideas that this committee has brainstormed about since we last met. Many of our ideas centered around improving our Affiliated Societies page on the website. We will need to work closely with the other committees that help make that happen. What do you think? Would it be helpful to have a map locator on the society's lookup page, how about a guide for putting together a virtual society meeting? How can a society generate income without meeting in person? Don't you all agree that it would be a good idea to request Appreciation Certificates through the website? What will make us more visible? We are working towards all of this and more. Your ideas are welcome.

**DID YOU KNOW?** The AOS website has a plethora of information to help us know and grow our orchids better. A good place to start is here: [ALL ABOUT ORCHIDS](https://www.aos.org/orchids.aspx)  
<https://www.aos.org/orchids.aspx>

The AOS exists to serve you, the orchid grower. The AOS website, the monthly ORCHIDS magazine, and the AOS webinars, held twice monthly are among the perks of membership.

### CULTURE CONNECTION

#### [Monthly Checklist on Orchid Care](https://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/november-december-checklist.aspx)

<https://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/november-december-checklist.aspx>

Putting together goody bags for your members for the holidays? How about including a few [culture sheets](https://www.aos.org/orchids/culture-sheets.aspx) for the most popular orchid genera? <https://www.aos.org/orchids/culture-sheets.aspx>

**DID YOU KNOW?** If you have missed an issue of the [AOS Corner](https://www.aos.org/about-us/affiliated-societies/aos-corner.aspx), they are archived on the AOS website. Recent issues can also be found in the Files section on the [Affiliated Societies Facebook Page](https://www.aos.org/about-us/affiliated-societies/aos-corner.aspx).

<https://www.aos.org/about-us/affiliated-societies/aos-corner.aspx>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AffiliatedSocietiesOfTheAOS/files/>

**PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR! The American Orchid Society Centennial Celebration**

Over the last several months, I have been researching the history of our committee for an article in the centennial issue of ORCHIDS magazine. Our website digital archives have been invaluable in turning up bits and pieces of information. Through the years, our committee name has changed. The scope and responsibilities of our committee has changed too. It was fun recognizing names of past committee members. I am honored to know some of them through our judging center, or to or have met them during a previous AOS Members Meeting. While the Affiliated Societies Committee may fall short of one hundred years in existence, there is still a lot to report that has brought us to where we are today. Keep an eye out for that article, and come along with us into the future of orchids while we move towards our own committee centennial. Let's celebrate orchids the entire year!



**Celebrate with us this holiday season!**

The American Orchid Society is pleased to announce these limited edition commemorative glasses. Purchase at our online store, [aos.org/cheers](http://aos.org/cheers). Available in two styles:

8oz screen printed champagne flute

15oz engraved stemless goblet



Proceeds support our Centennial Fund and Conservation Endowment.

**ORDER your commemorative glassware celebrating the American Orchid Society!**

Help us kick off the holiday season, cheers to one hundred years of orchids! Watch for it on [aos.org/cheers](http://aos.org/cheers)





**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 your society does not have internet access, you can contact the AOS Education Committee, Sandra Svoboda at [stillisch@cox.net](mailto:stillisch@cox.net) and request [a program, or multiple programs, from the recorded list](#). The video file(s) with instructions for use will be sent to you. Copy to a flash drive or copy to your computer hard drive and show the webinar at the meeting.

<http://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/Webinars-for-Affiliated-Societies-7-24-19.pdf>

If you have an idea for a webinar topic, or would like to present a webinar for our members, this is your opportunity. We are flexible! We are always looking for interesting topics to share with our viewers. Choose a day convenient for you. You will need a prepared PowerPoint topic, an internet connection, and a computer with audio capabilities to present an AOS webinar.

Contact [Cheryl Erins](#) to be added to the AOS webinar line-up or for further information. She can arrange a webinar practice session to help you get familiar with the process. [cerins@aos.org](mailto:cerins@aos.org)

# Webinars-Coming Attractions!



When	<b>November 05, 2020</b> 8:30pm EST Thursday	<b>November 10, 2020</b> 8:30pm EST Tuesday	<b>December 02, 2020</b> 8:30pm EST Wednesday	<b>December 16, 2020</b> 8:30pm EST Wednesday
Topic	A Colombian Orchid Adventure	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Orchid Conservation Projects in Florida and Cuba
Presenter	<b>Ron Parsons</b> Renowned photographer and author	<b>Ron McHatton</b> Chief Education and Science Officer	<b>Ron McHatton</b> Chief Education and Science Officer	<b>Lawrence Zettler</b> Biology Professor, Illinois College

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

Cannot make it on the scheduled date or time? No need to worry. Register anyhow! Webinar announcements are posted to Facebook, Instagram and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter. We digitize the webinars and they are 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](mailto:greenhousechat@aos.org)



**DID YOU KNOW?** The Affiliated Societies Committee maintains a [list of speakers](https://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Affiliated-Societies/AOS_Speakers_List_July27_2020.pdf) available for your monthly meeting presentations. The list has been updated with confirmations from speakers offering remote presentations. Please feel free to reach out to these speakers directly to see if they might fit into your meeting schedules.  
[https://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Affiliated-Societies/AOS\\_Speakers\\_List\\_July27\\_2020.pdf](https://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Affiliated-Societies/AOS_Speakers_List_July27_2020.pdf)

**AOS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE** AOS Representatives, please 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.*

**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.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Annual AOS digital membership is just \$54? That is just a little over \$1 per week. All 2020 [membership](https://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/AOSJoinForm2020.pdf) rates can be found on the AOS website! Need [print applications](http://www.aos.org/about-us/aos-membership.aspx) to have on hand at your monthly meetings or to mail out? Find them here: <http://www.aos.org/about-us/aos-membership.aspx>  
<https://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/AOSJoinForm2020.pdf>

One of the most cited benefits of joining the AOS is the wonderful monthly magazine *ORCHIDS*. In addition to each new monthly publication, AOS members have access to thousands of articles through the [digital archives](http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx). <http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx>

Published since 1932, *ORCHIDS* (formerly known as the AOS Bulletin) is among the [many benefits of an AOS membership](http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx). Exploding with glorious full-page color photographs, each monthly issue is packed with topics of current interest for both beginners and advanced orchid growers.

[Lindleyana](http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchids-magazine.aspx), *The Scientific Journal of the American Orchid Society*



Lindleyana magazine was published from 1986 through 2002. The quarterly issues contain fantastic articles for the scientifically inclined and those who appreciate a deeper understanding of orchids. AOS members also have full access to this publication in the digital archives.

<https://www.aos.org/about-us/lindleyana-magazine.aspx>

**CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION for Your Members**

In this age of COVID there are certainly members of our societies that have gone above and beyond the normal expectations to keep our groups together and functioning. Each Affiliated Society is eligible to receive annually, two Certificates of Appreciation, for presentation to valued members of your group. The beautiful certificates are free and may be requested at any time from [our Affiliated Societies contact](#) at AOS headquarters. Please allow processing time to customize the certificates for your recipients. [sandra@aos.org](mailto:sandra@aos.org)

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**YOUTH EDUCATIONAL EXHIBIT PROJECT**

The AOS Education Committee is seeking Affiliated Societies willing to run pilot projects at their upcoming shows. The AOS Education Committee has proposed an expansion in the scope of the existing Educational Exhibit Certificate (EEC) award at affiliated orchid shows. One of the goals of this award is to further the knowledge and education of the public regarding orchids. The Education Committee asserts that this is also an ideal way to attract youth to the AOS. Youth organizations, such as schools, colleges, or scouting troops, would be identified in the areas surrounding affiliated orchid shows and would be contacted prior to the shows. Similar to the existing educational exhibit, the youth exhibit would require participants to research topics about Orchidaceae and provide a display at the affiliated orchid show. At AOS sanctioned shows, all displays are judged by the AOS according to the AOS Judging Handbook rules and based on merit. The Youth Educational Exhibit is eligible to be judged as a candidate for an Educational Exhibit Certificate if it receives at least 80 points and meets the criteria set in the AOS Judging Handbook. Projects may be judged by society committee judges or AOS judges. Please contact [Barb Schmidt](#) at [jentomsch@hotmail.com](mailto:jentomsch@hotmail.com) for detailed project information.

## Youth Educational Exhibit Project



**SCORE SHEET  
EDUCATIONAL EXHIBIT**

American Orchid Society  
Education Committee Form

Entry # \_\_\_\_\_

	Scale Of Points	Points Scored
Educational Value	25	
Effectiveness	25	
Clarity of Labeling Explanation	20	
Appropriateness and attractiveness	15	
Originality	10	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>100</b>	

General Remarks

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



### AWARDS GALLERY

AOS MEMBERS can review the beauty and diversity of awarded orchids in every issue of [ORCHIDS magazine](#) and also in the most up to date [OrchidPro](#) awards database.

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

<https://op.aos.org/>



Below is a sample of comparing awards shown in [OrchidPro](#). Remember to sign on to [aos.org](#) and look for OrchidPro on the drop down menu. Click on any one photo in LATEST AWARDS to read the details, measurements and description for each award. Find out when and where it was exhibited, and the exhibitor for each orchid. While

you are there, select OTHER AWARDS button to compare the current award to previously awarded clones.

OrchidPro research reveals that there are 102 total AOS awards to this featured species. Be sure to select AOS in the Full Search menu to see only AOS awards. Additional awards granted through other judging systems are also available to view.

		
<b>Dendrobium cuthbertsonii 'Genevieve'</b>	<b>Dendrobium cuthbertsonii 'Full Moon'</b>	<b>Dendrobium cuthbertsonii 'Pink Halo'</b>
AM   AOS (88 points) Sep 13, 2020	AM   AOS (82 points) Sep 13, 2020	AM   AOS (86 points) Sep 13, 2020

The diversity of orchids seen in the judging system is awe-inspiring. Check in frequently to view the 100 most recent awards. Orchids are a continuing education.

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-Societies-Member-v5.pdf)

<http://www.aos.org/AOS/media/Content-Images/PDFs/Benefits-of-being-an-Affiliated-Societies-Member-v5.pdf>

**DID YOU KNOW? The first ever AOS T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST – A social media success!**

A call for art design submissions went out through the AOS Facebook group page and Instagram in mid-August. Artists had a three-week window to submit their designs. All twenty-one of the eligible art entries were posted in a poll on the AOS Facebook group page and Instagram during the month of September. Group members were encouraged to vote for their favorite design over a two-week period. The top three designs with the most votes earned a cash prize and other prestige. Congratulations to the winners! FIRST PLACE: Lauren Lee, \$500 USD, plus winning art exhibited in the AOS Library at Fairchild Tropical Botanical Gardens in Coral Gables, FL, and design printed on a t-shirt for sale by the AOS. SECOND PLACE: Birgitt Van Wormer, \$300 USD. THIRD PLACE: Cristina Neves, \$200 USD



**COMPETITION -TIME-**

**T-shirt Design  
Orchids of the Americas  
Art Contest**

**Prizes: USD**  
 First Place: \$500  
 Second Place: \$300  
 Third Place: \$200

Sponsored by the  
American Orchid Society [www.AOS.org](http://www.AOS.org)

**ONE submission per Artist**  
 Submission Deadline:  
September 07, 2020  
 Contact Contest Coordinator  
for submission details  
[jenniferr@aos.org](mailto:jenniferr@aos.org)  
 Attn: Jennifer Reinoso  
- Art Contest -

Designs will appear on AOS  
Facebook pages, Instagram,  
and website, with a two  
week voting period  
by popular vote.  
 First through third place  
artwork will be featured  
in a future edition of  
Orchids magazine.  
 First place design will be  
reproduced on a t-shirt  
offered for sale by the AOS.

**Attention Affiliated Societies**  
 100% of proceeds go to  
Orchid Conservation!

Get your Orchids of the Americas/  
AOS winning design T-shirts at a  
special price before the general AOS  
membership can order them.

**Special offer  
for society  
members**

<b>\$21</b>	Regular price \$25
	S, M, L, XL
<b>\$24</b>	Regular price \$28
	2XL, 3XL

(Florida residents add 7% sales tax  
.98 for s-xl, 1.19 for 2xl-3xl)  
**includes shipping**

Minimum order 12 T-shirts  
Adult or Ladies styles available in all sizes

**Send your order request to:  
YOUR AOS REPRESENTATIVE  
by October 30**

Include purchaser name, shipping  
address, style and size for each.  
 T-shirts will ship out to each individual  
the week of November 16.

**ORDERING DEADLINE SOON!** The shirts with the winning design are now ready to order. AOS representatives should find an email notice dated October 09 with ordering details. Please contact the contest coordinator [Jennifer Reinoso](mailto:jenniferr@aos.org) [jenniferr@aos.org](mailto:jenniferr@aos.org) for more information.

**LET US KNOW!** Is there something in particular that you would like to see the Affiliated Societies Committee address, accomplish or change over the next two years? How can we better serve our Affiliated Societies members?

**LOOKING TO SHARE?** Please send me a PDF copy of your society newsletter. I want to see what you all are doing. Forward your comments, questions and submissions for the AOS Corner to [askmasc@verizon.net](mailto:askmasc@verizon.net) or [EileenH@aos.org](mailto:EileenH@aos.org)

Thanks for meeting me down at the Corner!  
**Eileen Hector, AOS Corner - Affiliated Societies Newsletter Editor**

American Orchid Society | PO Box 565477 | Miami FL 33256-5477  
 Telephone: 305-740-2010 | FAX: 305-747-7154

# Dendrobium Care

## Question

Please tell me how to grow *Dendrobium spectabile* and *Dendrobium eximium*. All I was told is that they come from an area where there is lots of rainfall. — **Jose Bona**



*Dendrobium spectabile* 'Bunny', HCC/AOS

Exhibitor, Leon Rademacher. Photo by Karl Siegler

## Answer

Charles and Margaret Baker, in their book *Orchid Species Culture: Dendrobium*, indicate that both of these plants would grow well in rather high light in intermediate to warm conditions (mid 80s during the day with a 10- to 20° F drop at night). Moisture is consistent throughout the year, with some dryness in winter months, though the humidity remains high. The Bakers' information indicates that while *Den. eximium* will flower easily and young, *Den. spectabile* is more difficult to flower in temperate areas, because it requires a slightly cooler and drier rest, as well as needing to be a fairly large plant. — **Ned Nash**

**Taken from <https://www.aos.org/orchids/orchids-question-answer/dendrobium-care.aspx>**

# Orchid Honeydew

## Question

Can you tell me what the secretions are that some orchid plants put out around the stems of their flowers? Sometimes it is sticky and develops sooty mold like on *Grammatopyllum scriptum*. On other orchids, such as *Oncidium Sharry Baby*, it is more watery. I find it seems to appear in the morning.?

— **Tessa Harris**



Anoles are fond of the sweet exude and can help prevent sooty mold by licking it from buds and flowers.

## Answer

The secretion is simply plant sap, called honeydew, which is secreted by healthy plants. It is, as you note, basically sugar water, and can lead to sooty mold. This is why sooty mold can often be an indicator of sucking insects, which feed on this same sap, supplied to them by the plant's osmotic pressure. When the pressure is sufficiently high, the sap passes right through the bugs' digestive systems, resulting in conditions favorable for sooty mold. — **Ned Nash**

Taken from <https://www.aos.org/orchids/orchids-question-answer/orchid-honeydew.aspx>



# Monthly Checklist for November and December

## Cattleya

Growers of just about every level of expertise will have begun to notice autumn conditions by now. Days are becoming shorter, hence cooler; the sunlight has less intensity as a result of the sun's lowering angle, nights are longer and generally cooler. Plants are responding by slowing and ripening their growth in preparation for winter.

The first cultural change noticed should be a reduced frequency of watering, as the plants dry out more slowly. This is a function of both the reduced day length and lower temperatures, as well as the plants' slowing growth rate. Reduced water needs signal a reduced need for fertilization. Note that the key word is reduced, not eliminated. Feed less frequently and at lower dosage, but feed. Growths, made during summer's heat, and relatively soft and green, will be ripening -- hardening -- in preparation for a brief period of rest (in many cases).

Many of these ripening growths will have a sheath, presaging the coming winter or spring flowering season. In some cases, these sheaths will have been evident since as early as July. (Early sheath development does not mean early flowering on plants with winter-spring seasons.) You may notice that some of these sheaths are showing signs of yellowing. This is not abnormal. Autumn's more pronounced temperature fluctuation can lead to water condensation inside the sheath, hastening the normal process of senescence, so yellowing sheaths can be left on the plant only so long before they must be carefully removed to preserve the bud primordia within. Water condensation left unchecked can rot the bud primordia. The sheaths can be safely removed by slitting open and peeling down toward the pseudobulb.

## Cool-Growing Orchids

One can almost hear a sigh of relief from all of the cool-growers, from masdevallias to odontoglossums. As day temperatures decline, one can see a noticeable improvement in these plants. Shorter days and lower light levels do not seem to bother them. Repot before winter arrives.



*Cymbidium ensifolium* produces delicate flowers with a delightful citrus fragrance.

## Cymbidium

Finally we begin in earnest the main cymbidium season. *Cymbidium ensifolium* can give some early and fragrant hybrids, but it is now that the bulk of the crop will be flowering. The season lasts for about seven months, adding color to any collection. Miniature varieties will peak for the next three to four months. There are three important things to do: stake inflorescences ramrod straight for best presentation, watch for slugs and snails (especially just after a rain), and fertilize with a mild balanced formula regularly.

## Oncidium crispum Complex

This is the season for plants in *Oncidium* section *crispum* from Brazil to shine. Extremely vigorous hybrids come in wide varieties of markings dominated with chestnut and brown and butter yellow. Give plants high light to produce strong upright inflorescences. The pseudobulbs should be plump, so do not let the plants dry out while they are in bloom. Later, plants will enter a dormant period.

# Paphiopedilum

The flowering season for the "toads" or "bulldog" paphs is just getting underway. These cannot be grown everywhere, but where cooler summer nights allow their growth, there is no longer-lasting or more exotic display than these. Paphiopedilums are, in general, not heavy feeders, and it is especially important with this type to reduce nitrogen levels now for best flowering and spike length. Be watchful for water accumulating in the growth around the sheath, or for the late-season warm spell, either of which can lead to the sheath's rotting. As the spikes emerge, do not change the orientation of the plant toward the light, as this can lead to a crooked or twisted spike

While paphiopedilums rarely like to dry out entirely, water needs are significantly reduced beginning now. Overwatering at this time of year can quickly lead to root rot or erwinia problems. Now is the time to practice good sanitary practices in your greenhouse or growing areas, as pest and disease problems have a way of multiplying rapidly in the darker and more crowded conditions that generally mark the winter growing area. With paphiopedilums, especially, "cleanliness is next to godliness" and if the growing area is littered with old foliage, weeds and dying flowers, keeping the plants alive and flowering will be next to impossible.

# Phalaenopsis

Shortening days and cooler nights are the signals for inflorescence initiation in phalaenopsis. In more northern climates, or on the west coast, growers have already begun to see the early inflorescences that may be ready for Christmas. In the eastern areas, nights in the greenhouse will now be in the low to mid 60s, depending on the thermostat setting, so the first of our phalaenopsis will not begin to bloom until Valentine's Day at the earliest.

A reduction in nitrogen levels will go a long way to giving the best possible spiking, as will a boost in potassium and phosphorus. In other words, a "bloom booster"-type fertilizer is definitely indicated in the next few months. Disease and pest problems are best dealt with now, especially as mealybugs hide in the bracts and flower buds. Once they have established themselves, they are difficult to eradicate, and flower damage or crippling results. Potential disease problems can be dealt with by the application of a copper-based compound to control/alleviate rot problems before they start. There is nothing more frustrating than to have shepherded your plants through a growing season, only to have them decline before your eyes.





*Neofinetia falcata* will thrive in cooler temperatures and produce graceful vanilla-scented flowers.

## Vandaceous Genera

Whereas the general decline in temperatures is beneficial to cool-growing orchids, it is not for vandaceous plants. The only cold-hardy member is *Neofinetia falcata*. Orient your plants in such a way as to take advantage of as much light as possible. This can be a problem in northern latitudes. Reduce watering and feeding schedules.

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

*Taken from*

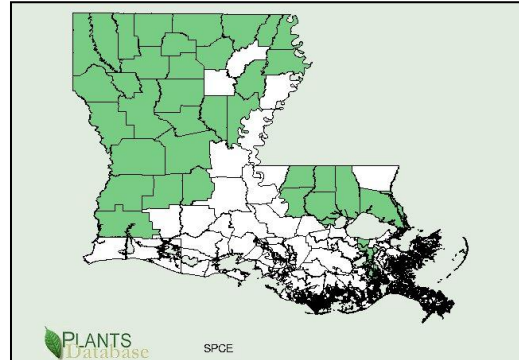
<https://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/november-december-checklist.aspx>

## Native Orchid of the Month—November

### *Spiranthes cernua* (nodding lady's tresses)

The nodding ladies'-tresses (*Spiranthes cernua*) is the common species of *Spiranthes* in eastern North America—one of 12 species occurring in Louisiana—with occurring from Quebec and Nova Scotia west to North Dakota and south to Florida and Texas. this terrestrial orchid can occur in a variety of habitats, it is commonly found in open woodlands, prairies,

old fields, and lawns with moist soils.



most America—populations southern. Although habitats, it is meadows, cemeteries, acidic sandy,

Few people would guess that *Spiranthes* flowers are orchids, a fact that may help save them from collectors. The narrow, grass-like leaves are 8–10 inches long, growing from the base of the plant.

The flowers are white and grow upper part of the slender, erect stem, 2 feet tall. Three to four flowers cycle of spiral, forming a dense spike long. The individual flowers are inch long, curve downward slightly. The lip is about 1/2 inch long, with a crimped margin.



along the which is 1 to occur per 6 inches about 1/2 nodding. flaring,

Flowering occurs from July through November. They produce sweet, vanilla-scented, spires of white flowers that last for weeks and hold up well as cut flowers. They adapt easily to regular orchid culture. Blooms reliably every fall with attractive spirals of pure-white, long-lasting, fragrant flowers on a perfectly straight stem, and if tended multiply quickly into a beautiful specimen plant!

