

The Orchid Enthusiast

The Newsletter of the Central New York Orchid Society

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society and Orchid Digest

Page 1 Volume 16: Issue 3 November 2013

<i>In This Issue</i>	
	<i>page</i>
<i>Next Meeting</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Q & A</i>	<i>1,2</i>
<i>CNYOS Show Results</i>	<i>2-4</i>
<i>Other Awards</i>	<i>4,5</i>
<i>President's Message</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Snack Volunteers</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Event Calender</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>More on Bugs</i>	<i>5,6</i>
<i>CNYOS 13 Show</i>	<i>6</i>

Next Meeting: Sunday November 3. We will Share Our Experiences of the Best Way of Dealing With Bugs on Our Orchids.

We are trying something different at our next meeting. Rather than having an outside speaker, we will share the experience of our members for everyone's edification.

All of us have been upset in finding that creepy-crawlies such as hard and soft scale, mealy bugs or white flies have infected our collection. What do you do about it? Does your method work? Are there safety precautions required?

Please share what works with the rest of us, and also let us know what doesn't work so we won't bark up the wrong tree.

If you have references for your methods, bring them along.

The Show Committee will get together before the meeting, to review the Show, and we will share our conclusions with the rest of the club. If anyone has any comments on how the Show operated this year, we would like to hear from you.

Please bring your blooming beauties for the show table as usual, and there will also be a raffle table.

Q&A

Here is a question and answer from the AOS magazine, very relevant to our topic:

Q.I have been fighting an ongoing mealy bug infestation in my *Phalaenopsis* collection for more than two years. Using insecticides has caused me more problems than it cured. Lately, I have been using Ultrafine Sun Oil pesticide, but if I stop for a week, the bugs come right back. I have been told that systemic pesticides do not work on orchids. Is this true? Can you recommend a safe and effective pesticide for my problem? — *Steven Schneider*



A

I have never found systemic insecticides particularly effective against mealy bugs. However, Orthene does seem to be good for treatment when used at the strength recommended on the label. Because mealy bugs are such a problem with fast-growing, soft-leaved orchids like Phalaenopsis, it is important to bring them under control, and then treat as necessary to keep an infestation from reestablishing. The classic prescription is to treat every seven to 10 days for three treatments, alternating insecticides. For example, you might choose to use Orthene and Malathion. The use of a wetting agent is also important with mealy bugs to penetrate

their waxy coatings. — *Ned Nash*

CNYOS Show Results

CNYOS Exhibit *First - Best Orchid Society Exhibit (Affl. AOS)*
Orchid Digest Trophy
First – Best Exhibit in Show



CNYOS Ribbon and Award Winners

Class Place Pl.# Plant Name

David Ditz

676 2 130 Den. laevifolium
 677 1 134 Den. hemimelanoglossum
 681 2 157 Hab. rhodocheila

Donna Coleman

42 2 646 Paphiopedilum (Paph.) Memoria Brittany Marie Nowicki
 46 1 647 Paph. French Jewel
 49 2 672 Paph Avalon Pearl
 61 2 650 Gchls. Japonicus
 63 2 651 “ “ (miniature)
 62 2 673 Asc. Twinkle
 192 1 653 Puzzle of Orchids

Best of Artistic Classes

Eva Galson

107 3 687 Pyp. Mendenhall ‘Hildos’ FCC/AOS
 157 1 686 Sngl. longifolia

Iris Cohen

131 2 692 Den. Enobi Purple Splash AM/AOS
 134 2 693 “ “ (miniature)

Jerry and Sue Finger

34 1 620 Cattleya
 75 2 660 Phl. Pure Moon
 106 2 622 Rdza. arevaloi
 108 2 618 Lsz Lava Burst ‘Puanani’ AM/AOS
 131 1 623 Den. Mini-Stripe
 131 3 624 Den. Thailand

Best Amateur Under Lights

Judi Witkin

41 2 636 Paph. gratrixianum
 41 2 634 Paph. helinae
 54 1 635 “ “ (miniature)
 61 2 644 Cleis. Birmanicum
 157 3 640 Sngl. longifolia

Lauri Burritt

72 2 654 Phal. Mount Lip
 77 1 655 Phal. Little Blue Bird
 36 2 659 Bc. Memoria Vida Lee
 44 1 657 Paph. Hsinying Majakun
 49 2 658 Paph. Heron’s Faire

Cheryl Lloyd

51 2 684 Phrag. Ecu-Bess
 50 1 683 Phrag. longifolium
 51 1 685 Phrag. Eric Young

Best Amateur Phrag. Andy Myers Memorial Award

Jack & Deb Hasse

76 2 627 Phal. Sogo Grape
 103 1 629 Onc. Ruffles
 103 3 628 Onc. Heaven Sent
 130 3 630 Den. laevifolium
 134 3 631 “ “ (miniature)

Charles Ufford

41 3 625 Paph superbiens

Other Major Award Winners

GROS –

Best Hybrid	Paph Doll’s Kobold	Jeanne Kaeding
Best Amateur Species	E. diota var. rubra #1	Jeanne Kaeding
Jim Rice Award	“ “	Jeanne Kaeding
Best Amateur Cattleya	C. Schilleriana	Jeanne Kaeding
Margaret & Fred Ummer Award	“ “	
Best of Cymbidium Alliance	Cym. Osborn	Jeanne Kaeding
Best of Phalaenosis Alliance	Phal. Corona	Carol Butcher
Best of Vandaceous Alliance	V. Pachara Delight	Natalie Auburn

STOS -

Best of Pleurothallid Alliance	Dda.elata	John Zygmunt
Clifford Rossler Award	“ “	John Zygmunt
Best Amateur Species	“ “	John Zygmunt
Best Educational Exhibit AOS Award		John Zygmunt

JustPat Orchids –

Best of Cattleya Alliance	C. bowringiana coerlea	Paul Scheetz
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Jim Marlow – Exhibit First in Commercial Class

Best of Dendrobium Alliance	Den. miyakai ‘Scottsville’HCC/AOS
Best of Zygopetalum Alliance	Lyc. skinneri

Kelley’s Korner

Best of Oncidium Alliance	Milt. moreliana	John Crocker
Best of Miscellaneous	Ddc magnum	Sue & Chuck Andersons
Genera		

President's Message

Another show come and gone and we've learned more again about doing things a better way next year. Each year gets a little better as we work out more kinks (including the kinks in everyone's backs!). Great to have as many volunteers as we did! Sales looked good for our vendors and the raffle bowls had lots of slips in them. We'll be going over the show results at our next meeting.

Sue

Refreshment Volunteers

November	1. Jack and Deb Hasse	2. Lori Burritt
December	Holiday Party – Everyone contributes	
January	1. ?	2. ?
February	1. ?	2. ?
March	1. ?	2. ?
April	Trip to GROS	

Events Calendar

November 3 – CNYOS Meeting – Controlling Bugs on our Orchids

December 1 – CNYOS Meeting – Holiday Party

January 5 – CNYOS Meeting - Member Auction

February 2 - TBA

March 2 - TBA

April 6 - Trip to Rochester for GROS

May 4 – CNYOS Meeting - Club Auction

June Picnic – Date and place to be arranged

At the November meeting, new officers will be nominated, with elections at the December meeting.

Also at the December meeting we will raffle off a copy of Orchid Wiz Express, which we received as a gift from Orchid Wiz.

OrchidWiz Express is an abbreviated version of the full OrchidWiz, and is suitable for beginner to intermediate hobby growers. It's an easy to use application that allows orchid growers to get cultivation and genealogy information for thousands of species and more than 145,000 hybrids. Orchidists can track their orchids by using the Orchid Journal, as well as print labels for tags. OrchidWiz 2013 comes with more than 4000 photographs of the most common species and hybrids

More Information on Bugs from the AOS Aphids, Mealybugs and Scale Insects

The following advice has been provided by Paul J. Johnson of the Insect Research Collection of South Dakota State University (<http://nathist.sdstate.edu/orchids/Pests>).



Brown scale

Probably the most popular home remedy against this group of pests is to swab and daub plants with a cotton swab or ball of cotton dipped in

isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol. Do not use other alcohols, such as ethanol or methanol, that will penetrate the plant tissues and cause considerable damage! The common 70% isopropyl alcohol available in stores is satisfactory. On hard-leaved plants, gentle rubbing with the fingers, a cotton ball, or a soft infant's toothbrush is effective. First remove all the visible insects, large and small. Then treat the affected area with alcohol. With Scale insects and mealy bugs you will still need to repeat the alcohol treatment to remove the tiny yellowish spots which are the recently hatched crawlers. Spraying of alcohol solutions is not always effective against eggs which are often well-hidden, hence the need for thoroughness and repetition. Pay particular attention to the folds, crotches, branch bases, midrib areas, and roots. Spraying the alcohol with a misting bottle or small pump sprayer is effective, but dribbling alcohol into tight areas is necessary.

Once hard scale is established, it can take several treatments to eradicate it.

A potential rare problem with alcohol treatment is chilling of the plant. The rapid evaporation of alcohol cools the plant tissues, especially with air movement that increases evaporative cooling. This chilling is suspected of over-cooling tissues and creating zones of dead cells that may become necrotic from bacteria or fungi. On warm or breezy days consider wiping any residual alcohol with a tissue instead of permitting it to evaporate off the plant. Such problems and tissue drying are found particularly on soft or thin-leaved orchids such as the *Oncidium Alliance*.

Isopropyl alcohol is readily available as rubbing alcohol in cosmetic and health areas at markets and pharmacies. It is normally sold as a 70% solution (90% is also available) and this may be diluted considerably for use against insects. One recipe for a 1.5 liter spray bottle is to mix a 50:50 solution of isopropyl alcohol and water, with a few drops to about a teaspoon of liquid soap to act as a spreader. Many home growers also mix in a small amount of mineral oil, neem oil, or one of the horticultural oils (a teaspoon of oil to a 1.5 liter sprayer). The actual proportions aren't critical, it seems that every grower has their own proportions none of which seem to work significantly better than another. Caution is urged, however, as excessive amounts or too strong a detergent, or use of an ammonia-based chemical cleaner may damage your plants, particularly buds and flowers. This is particularly true of dish soaps and household detergents that could remove natural protective waxes from plant tissues.

Ed Wright, a long-time orchid grower from San Antonio, Texas offers another useful home remedy that is very effective against most orchid pests. The recipe is 1 pint of 409 cleaner to 1 pint of rubbing alcohol (preferably 90%) and sufficient water to make 1 gallon of solution. This mixture is safe, stable and quite effective. It is used in the same manner as an alcohol/water mixture, either sprayed or swabbed.

2013 CNYOS Show

Another successful Show is completed, and I want to thank all of you who volunteered, from clerks to show monitors whose sharp eyes safeguarded our plants. Thanks for all those beautiful plants you provided, expertly arranged by Jan, Sue, David Ditz and Judi, whose husband deserves an extra accolade for his emergency trip for the moss. The food was excellently managed by Jerry Finger, so that the room looked neat and clean, and there was sufficient delicious food for everyone.

If any of you have ideas or suggestions of how to make the Show even better next year, please let me or a member of the committee know. The committee will have a show review meeting before the November meeting and we welcome any input.

Our raffle went well, with the jars well filled with raffle tickets. Many thanks to Judi for contributing some of her beautiful jewelry.

Three of the raffle prizes were won by our Club members, and all the other winners with whom I talked personally were delighted by their good fortune.

The Orchid Enthusiast

The CNYOS Newsletter, is a publication of the Central New York Orchid Society and is distributed to the Society's members ten times per year, prior to all club meetings, events and functions.

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The Central NY Orchid Society usually meets at St. Augustine's Church 7333 O'Brien Rd, Baldwinsville on the first Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm.

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November '13 Issue –We Will Share Our Experiences With Getting Rid of Bugs on Our Orchids