

# Orchid GROWING GUIDE

## CATTLEYA ORCHID

Cattleya Orchid or "Catts" or the corsage orchid. Known as the "Queen of Orchids" with a wide range of colors, shapes and sizes, many with heavenly fragrances. Best of the "smell me" orchids. Flowers last 2-8 weeks, with some blooming 2-3 times a year.

**LIGHT:** West or South window with protection from hot afternoon sun. Summer outdoors in a shady location.

**TEMPERATURE:** Cool nights (50-65 degrees F) and warm days (70-95 degrees F)

**MOISTURE:** Water thoroughly once a week and not again until media is completely dry. Maintain high humidity.

**NUTRITION:** Fertilize weekly with a 20-10-20 throughout the year, heavier in spring when plant is producing new growth.

**POTTING:** Every two years, when plants grow out of the pot or the media breaks down, but only when new roots are present.

*TIPS: If a plant does not bloom, increase light and feeding. Peel flower sheath apart if it turns yellow or brown, to allow buds to develop normally. Use 1 Tbl. of dish soap and 1 Tbl. of mineral oil in a quart of water to treat scale insects.*



# Orchid GROWING GUIDE

## DENDROBIUM ORCHID

A very diverse tribe with a wide range of cultural needs. So many colors and flower shapes make this a worthwhile challenge.

Cane type or Nobile Dendrobium

LIGHT: South or west window.

TEMPERATURE: Warm days (75-95 degrees F) in spring and summer and cooler (45-65 degrees F) in the fall and winter.

MOISTURE: Water thoroughly and allow media to dry out. In the fall restrict water until new buds begin to emerge and then water regularly. Laturia and Formosum types require continual weekly watering throughout the year.

POTTING: Repot every 2 years, in a medium bark mix.

Nutrition: Feed with 20-10-20 in spring and summer and a 6-30-30 fertilizer in fall and winter.

*TIPS: When purchasing an orchid, be sure it is properly potted and healthy, with good cultural instructions. Plants may produce a keiki (baby) if temperatures are too warm in the fall.*



FORMOSUM TYPE



LATURIA  
TYPE



CANE TYPE

# Orchid

## GROWING GUIDE

### DANCING DOLL ORCHID

(Oncidium Alliance)

A unique group of orchids created to bloom in a wide range of colors and shapes. Included are the spiders, stars, popcorn orchids, many with haunting fragrances.

**LIGHT:** East, west, or south window with protection from hot afternoon sun.

**TEMPERATURE:** Cool nights (50-65 degrees F) nights and warm days (70-85 degrees F) days. Summer outdoors in a shady location for best growth and blooming. Leave out late in fall to chill for spike initiation.

**MOISTURE:** Plants with thick fleshy roots require less watering than plants with thin roots and leaves. Water thoroughly every 5-7 days. Water more frequently when plants are producing new growth. Provide good humidity.

**NUTRITION:** Feed weekly with 20-10-20 in spring and summer, 6-30-30 in fall and winter.

**POTTING:** Repot every 1-2 years when media begins to break down or the roots all grow outside the pot. Remove old flower spikes at the base when flowers have faded.

*TIPS: Orchids with abbreviations like Bllra., Mtssa., Oda., Odbrs., Onc., or Vuyl., belong in this group.*

# Orchid

## GROWING GUIDE

### ZYGOPETALUM ORCHID

Predominately green and purple waxy flowers with an array of sweet fragrances. Blooms every 3-6 months on upright spikes of 3-9 flowers.

**LIGHT:** North or east exposure or shaded west window.

**TEMPERATURE:**  
Nights of 55-65 degrees F and days of 70-80 degrees F.

**MOISTURE:**  
Water every 3-5 days to keep plants continually moist. Avoid getting water on the leaves, to prevent black spotting.

**NUTRITION:** Fertilize with a 20-10-20 food during active growth, one time each week.

**POTTING:** Use a medium bark mix, with good drainage. Repot every 1 or 2 years, when roots fill the pot. Plants will not bloom if roots are overcrowded.

*TIPS: This orchid should be included in a beginners collection. The new hybrids from Germany and Australia are easier to grow and bloom than the Zygopetalum species.*



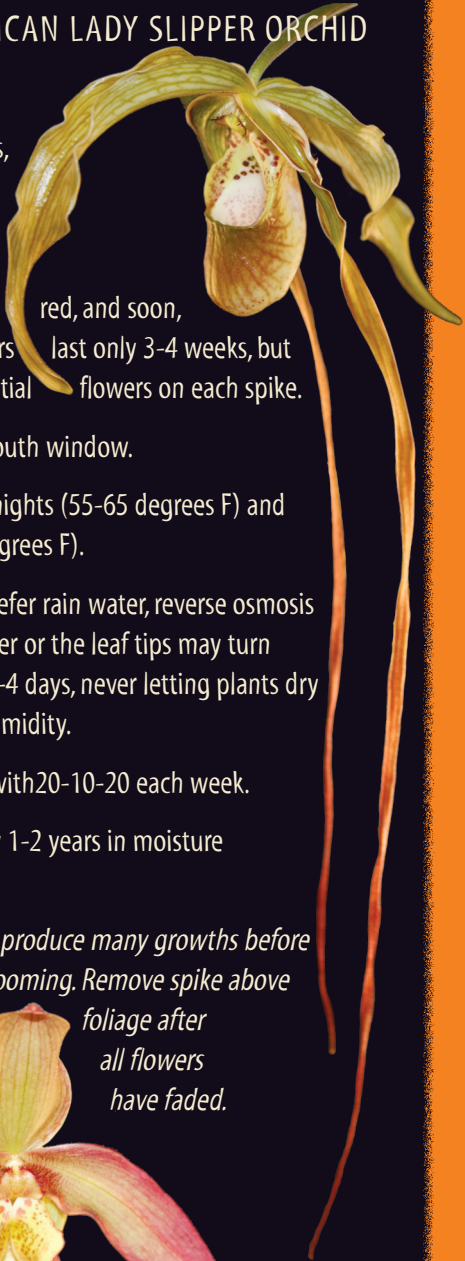
# Orchid

## GROWING GUIDE

### SOUTH AMERICAN LADY SLIPPER ORCHID

(Phragmipedium)

Exotic looking flowers, some with petals up to two feet long and others with intense orange, pink, green, red, and soon, purple flowers. Flowers last only 3-4 weeks, but will have 3-15 sequential flowers on each spike.



**LIGHT:** East, west or south window.

**TEMPERATURE:** Cool nights (55-65 degrees F) and warm days (70-85 degrees F).

**MOISTURE:** Phrags. prefer rain water, reverse osmosis water or distilled water or the leaf tips may turn brown. Water every 3-4 days, never letting plants dry out. Maintain high humidity.

**NUTRITION:** Fertilize with 20-10-20 each week.

**POTTING:** Repot every 1-2 years in moisture retentive media.

**TIPS:** Allow plants to produce many growths before dividing for better blooming. Remove spike above

*foliage after all flowers have faded.*



# Orchid GROWING GUIDE

## LADY SLIPPER ORCHID

(Paphiopedilum)

A great combination with moth orchids

(Phalaenopsis), both liking similar conditions.

Relatively small plants produce large yellow, white, pink, green and burgundy flowers.

**LIGHT:** North or east exposure, or under grow lights.

**Temperature:** Mottled leaf types (Maudiae or sequential), 60-65 degrees F nights and 75-85 degrees F days. Green leaf types (Multi Flora or Bulldogs), 50-60 degrees F nights and 70-80 degrees F days.

**MOISTURE:** Water every 5-9 days, providing as much humidity as possible.

**NUTRITION:** 20-10-20 every 2 weeks at half-strength.

**Potting:** Small bark or medium coconut mix, every year, in spring or fall.

*TIPS: Allow plants to produce many growths before dividing for better blooming. Remove spikes above foliage after all flowers have faded. Watch for mealybugs. Use 1 Tbl. of dish soap and 1 Tbl. of mineral oil in a quart of water and spray.*



MULTI FLORA  
PAPHIOPEDILUM  
3-6 flowers per year



MAUDIAE PAPHIOPEDILUM  
1-2 flowers per year