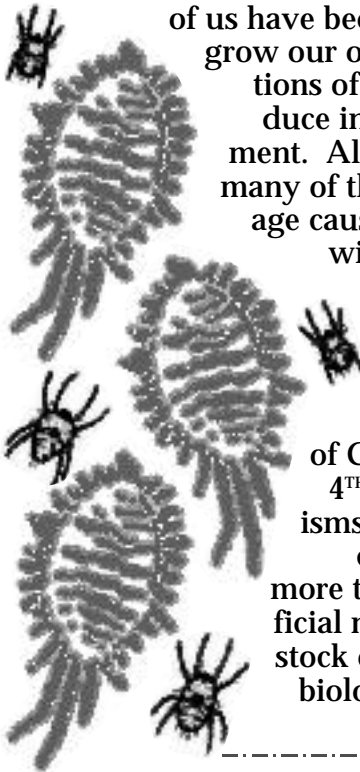




FEBRUARY 4TH: CAROL GLENISTER OF IPM LABS

FEBRUARY 25TH: TRIP TO BLOOMFIELD ORCHIDS

Have you ever felt that you were not so much growing orchids, as providing high-priced condominiums for mealybugs, scales, mites, and other uninvited tenants which have a far different interest in your plants than you do? What about that heart-wrenching feeling when you discover *too late* that the rare orchid species you mortgaged your house for has been infested with some nasty pest that has damaged the plant beyond help? Most of us have been there, despite our best efforts. And for those members who grow our orchids inside our homes, the approaches to ridding our collections of these pests can be very limited; it is seldom desirable to introduce insecticides and other chemical controls into our living environment. Although fungal and bacterial problems also can plague orchids, many of these are secondary infections that set in as a result of the damage caused by sucking insects—control the insects and your collection will be more healthy overall. Our guest speaker this month just might have some insight to these problems...



This month, CNYOS welcomes **Carol Glenister of IPM Laboratories** in Locke, NY. IPM is short for Integrated Pest Management, which will be the topic of Carol's presentation to our club this Sunday at 2:00^{PM} (February 4TH). IPM Laboratories specializes in supplying beneficial organisms for biological control of insect and mite pests, and began producing beneficial insects in 1985. Today the company supplies more than 50 species of beneficial insects, beneficial mites, and beneficial nematodes for pest control in greenhouses, interiorscapes, livestock operations, and landscapes. The entomologist on staff designs biological control programs for fungus gnats, aphids, spider mites, whiteflies, mealybugs, thrips, and scales.

Founder and president of IPM Laboratories, Carol has participated in continual growth of the beneficial bug industry as a pest management consultant, marketer, and beneficial insect producer. She is a long time member of the board of directors of the Association of Natural

BioControl Producers, and served as president in 1999 and 2000. Since 1998 she has chaired the ASTM Subcommittee on Natural Multi-Cellular Biological Control Organisms which is developing standards for quality of biological controls.

Please Note: Due to a scheduling conflict at the church, we will not be meeting in our usual room; instead we will be meeting in room #6, a classroom in the same building which is to the left as you enter (with our normal meeting room to the right).

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FEBRUARY 25: ROAD TRIP TO BLOOMFIELD ORCHIDS—NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

In keeping with the past few years, CNYOS will be paying our annual visit to Joe Kunisch of Bloomfield Orchids in Pittsford NY. Bloomfield Orchids specializes in quality *Paphiopedilum* and *Phragmipedium* orchids—those slipper orchids that some CNYOS members can't seem to get enough of! For the past few years, Bloomfield Orchids has been a regular vendor at our show, and a good friend of CNYOS. This year, Joe has invited the club to come a bit earlier in the day for a pizza lunch & refreshments, as well as a brief presentation on the basics of slipper orchid culture. We will be meeting at the entrance to the Parish Hall at St. Augustine's Church at 10:30^{AM}, and form car-pools out to Joe's. Directions are given on page 11. **This event was originally scheduled for 2/11, but had to be moved to 2/25.** Please let Dave Ditz know if you're planning to attend (635-8148).

JANUARY MEETING: INVITED SPEAKER, ERIC CHRISTENSON

In January, CNYOS hosted noted taxonomist and author Eric Christenson to speak on his orchid adventures in Peru. Eric gave a thoroughly enjoyable presentation accompanied by slides taken on his various trips to Peru, including Incan ruins and many incredible native orchids. His animated narrative was very entertaining, and touched on topics that included not only Machu Picchu and the native Peruvian orchids, but also one of his guides—"Monkey Boy," and guinea pigs as a culinary adventure! After his presentation ended, Eric obliged us by going over our show table.

Before the meeting about 10 CNYOS members took Eric out to dinner at the Fireside Inn. Thanks to Iris and Elihu Cohen for hosting Eric at their home during his stay.

Although Eric did his best to maintain "center stage" during our meeting, the weather was vying for that honor as well, whipping up a nasty blizzard while we sat inside virtually unaware... The roads were exceptionally hazardous after the meeting. A least two members—*your friendly newsletter editor included*—ended up in ditches on the side of the highway waiting for a tow truck. Many members took well over an hour to get home safely.

Thanks to Judi Witkin and Gary Stensland for the exceptional refreshments.

MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 9TH, 2000

1. Treasurer's Report: Balance of \$2000.
2. Proceeds from selling Andy Myers' plants will be donated to AOS.
3. A sign-up sheet for refreshments was circulated.
4. The February meeting will be held on 2/4/01—program to be announced.
5. A trip to visit Joe Kunisch's greenhouse (Bloomfield Orchids) is planned for 2/11/01. Joe has invited us for a pizza lunch and refreshments, and will give a general presentation on the culture of *Paphiopedilum* orchids. **[NOTE: The date for visiting Joe's greenhouse has been changed from 2/11 to 2/25.]**
6. The Flower and Garden Show is under new management—Garden and Home shows are to be held at the same time with a shuttle bus going between the 2 shows/buildings. The cost for non-member participation is \$600. Delores Capella has contacted other not-for-profit garden societies, who will be making decisions on participating within the next month. CNYOS voted not to participate if there is a fee imposed on the club.
7. Iris Cohen had a message from Elinor Burton (CNYOS Treasurer)—from the AOS—if there is no show chairmen, there will be no show.
8. Area Shows: STOS-4/27-29 & GROS 4/20-22—we need to have volunteers to set up and take down our club's displays, and for registration.
9. CNYOS Show—Dianne Bordoni and Deb Coyle to be our chair-people. Possible dates include the first 2 weekends in October. The orchid society show in Buffalo is on the weekend of 10/14.
10. Regarding the ongoing question of insurance for the show, Delores Capella volunteered to go to Shoppingtown Mall to find out what coverage the mall requires. Tom Lloyd will follow up and look for alternative insurance agencies.
11. Membership—Jeff Stuart has stopped courtesy mailings except for those people who signed up at our past show.
12. Dolores Capella brought in the address for Mary Sheila Scoones, a very close friend of Andy Myers (116 Vanida Ln. Fayetteville, NY 13066).
13. Thanks to Jeff Stuart for picking up Eric Christenson in Rochester, and to Judi and Gary for the refreshments—especially the apricot treats!
14. OFE order: Rick Groll will be placing the group order and members are welcome to include their personal orders from the catalog. There was discussion about ordering coconut husk chips and Neem oil. Jeff Stuart has slotted clay pots.
15. Newsletter editor Jeff Stuart would like an updated list of members' e-mail addresses. Members interested in being on the e-mail mailing list for the club were requested to send a message to Jeff at jastuart@syr.edu

**Respectfully submitted, Barbara Weller
CNYOS Secretary**

IMPORTANT!!! Pay Your Dues!

Have you paid your dues? A casual look at our membership list indicates that many of you have not. Most of the courtesy mailings have already been cut off of the mailing list—don't let that happen to you! CNYOS uses your membership dues to cover the cost of the newsletter and bring in both local and nationally known speakers. These activities are not cheap—on average, the newsletter costs nearly \$1.50 per issue. Check the label on this newsletter: if it reads "C" you are a Courtesy mailing. If it reads "M2K," you are a member and owe dues for the new season. "M01" reflects a paid status. "CM" denotes a Commercial mailing (no dues required). These labels may not be entirely up to date, so if you've already paid, your status will be updated by the next newsletter. Annual club dues are \$15.00 per person or \$17.00 per family, payable to CNYOS. Dues should be mailed to CNYOS Treasurer Elinor Burton, at 301 Sherbrooke Rd., Manlius NY 13104.

CNYOS CALENDAR

- February 4** **Monthly Meeting: Carol Glenister of IPM Labs** in Auburn, NY to speak on integrated pest management.
- February 25** **CNYOS trip to Bloomfield Orchids** in Pittsford NY.
- March 16-19** **Central New York Flower and Garden Show.** Participation in this event by CNYOS is still uncertain due to monetary demands by the new organizers of the show. Details will be announced in upcoming meetings.
- April 6-8** **New York International Orchid Show,** The World Trade Center Winter Garden, New York, NY. Contact: Carlos Fighetti, 325 Piermont Rd., Closter, NJ 07624, (201) 767-0621.
- April 20-22** **Genesee Region Orchid Society Show,** Eisenhart Auditorium, Rochester Museum and Science Center, 657 East Ave., Rochester, NY. Contact: Mark Gillette, 5190 Beam Hill Road, Marion, NY 14505.
- April 27-29** **Southern Tier Orchid Society Show,** Oakdale Mall, Harry L Drive & Reynolds Road, Johnson City, NY. Contact: Patricia Bonamo, 808 Echo Road, Vestal, NY 13850, (607) 748-5314.
- May 6** Special Guest Speaker, **Milton Carpenter, President of the American Orchid Society** and proprietor of Everglades Orchids (<http://www.evergladesorchids.com/>). Details to be announced.
- June 10** **Annual CNYOS Spring Auction.** Note change of Month!.
- September 2001** **Guest speaker, Howard Ginsburg:** Proprietor of *Bedford Orchids* (Montreal, Quebec, <http://www.bedfordorchids.com/>) and AOS Judge (regular at the CNYOS Show). Howard specializes in *Phalaenopsis* hybrids and will discuss new trends in hybridization of perhaps the most popular of all orchids.

JANUARY SHOW TABLE

Cypripedium Alliance

<i>Paph. victoria-mariae</i>	Stuart
<i>Paph. Schroderae</i> (<i>caudatum</i> x <i>Sedenii</i>)	"
<i>Paph. wardii</i>	"
<i>Paph. schoseri</i>	Ditz
<i>Phrag. Olaf Gruss</i> (<i>besseae</i> x <i>pearcei</i>)	"
<i>Paph. Sheerline</i> x <i>Inca</i>	"
<i>Phrag. Sedenii</i> (<i>schlimii</i> x <i>longifolium</i>)	Stuart
<i>Paph. Sajun</i> (<i>sukhakulii</i> x <i>wardii</i>)	Powell
<i>Paph. Forest Nymph</i> (<i>Alma Gavaert</i> x <i>venustum</i>)	Witkin
<i>Paph. Mount Ka'ala</i> (<i>spicerianum</i> x <i>exul</i>)	"
<i>Paph. villosum</i>	"
<i>Paph. venustum</i>	"
<i>Paph. insigne</i>	Groll
<i>Paph. Raisin Magic</i> (<i>Raisin Pie</i> x <i>Voodoo Magic</i>)	Wilson

Cattleya Alliance

<i>Slc. El Dorado Fire</i> (<i>Rocket Burst</i> x <i>Soph. Arizona</i>)	Groll
<i>Slc. Pink Doll</i> (<i>Tangerine Jewel</i> x <i>L. [Soph.] pumila</i>)	"
<i>C. Bactia</i> (<i>bowringiana</i> x <i>leopoldii</i>)	"
<i>Soph. cernua</i>	"
<i>Blc. Campobello</i> (<i>Bc. Chatooga River</i> x <i>Golden Galleon</i>)	Capella
<i>Blc. Oconee</i> (<i>Lc. Belle of Celle</i> x <i>Norman's Bay</i>)	"
<i>Lpt. unicolor</i>	"
<i>Lc. Mari's Song</i> (<i>Irene Finney</i> x <i>C. Cherry Chip</i>)	Bordoni
<i>C. Chocolate Drop</i> x <i>Lc. Lee Langford</i>	"
<i>Lc. Mini Purple</i> (<i>L. [Soph.] pumila</i> x <i>C. walkeriana</i>)	Cohen

Vandaceous

<i>Rhy. gigantea</i>	Capella
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Oncidium Alliance

<i>Col. Wildcat</i> (<i>Odn. Rustic Bridge</i> x <i>Odcdm. Crowborough</i>)	Ditz
<i>Onc. Twinkle</i> (<i>cheirophorum</i> x <i>ornithorhynchum</i>)	Bordoni
<i>Onc. leucochilum</i>	Capella

Dendrobium

<i>Den. cuthbertsonii</i>	Stuart
<i>Den. Memoria Margery Ummer</i> (<i>Nagasaki</i> x <i>Yukidaruma</i>)	Cohen
<i>Den. Dressy Lasses</i> x <i>Pink Pixie</i>	"
<i>Den.</i> (<i>Theodore Takiguchi</i> x <i>affine</i>) x <i>Snowfire</i>	Bordoni

Pleurothallid Alliance

<i>Masd. pteroglossa</i>	Groll
<i>Masd. ignea</i>	"
<i>Masd. Pixie Leopard</i> (<i>chaparensis</i> x <i>decumana</i>)	"
<i>Masd. Angel Heart</i> (<i>ignea</i> x <i>infracta</i>)	"
<i>Masd. hirtzii</i>	"
<i>Masd. nidifica</i>	"
<i>Masd. xanthina</i>	"
<i>Masd. mystica</i>	"
<i>Masd. norops</i>	"
<i>Lths. calodictyon</i>	"
<i>Dryadella albescens</i> (sic)	Stuart

Miscellaneous

<i>Z. mackayi</i>	Ditz
<i>Dendrochilum arachnites</i>	"
<i>Malleola baliensis</i>	Bordoni

Iris Cohen

The Men's Garden Club of Syracuse, Watson Garden Center in Lafayette, NY & Phoenix Flower Farm/PFF Landscaping, Phoenix, NY

Present their 7th Annual Spring Gardening Seminar

"A Garden Odyssey"

with Judith B. Tankard & Stephanie Cohen

PERENNIALS IN THE GARDEN: LOOKING BACK & LOOKING FORWARD

Saturday, April 7, 2001

To be held at Drumlins Country Club, \$45/per person

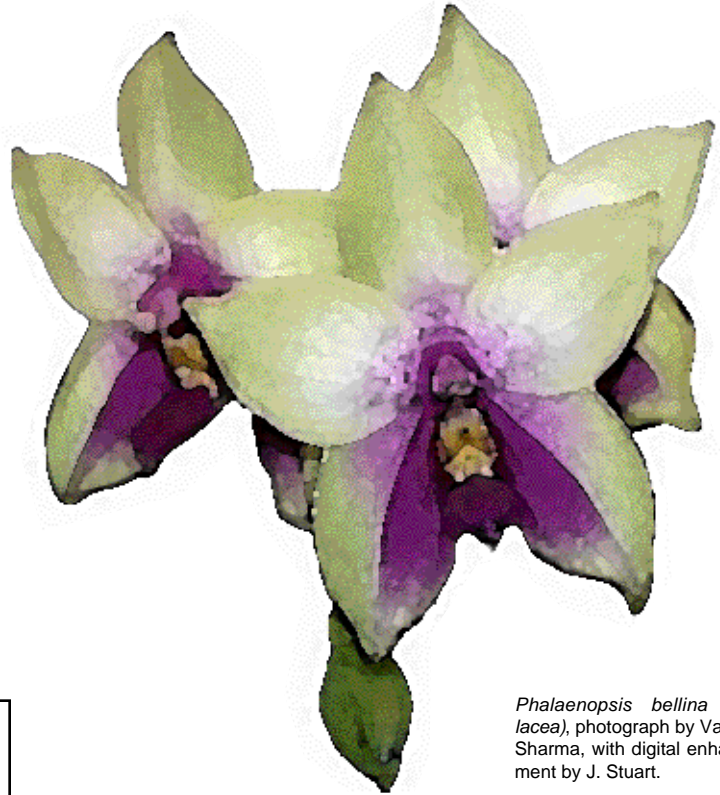
Call (315)457-9542 for more information.

CLUB REMINDERS

Orchid-Growing Supplies are now available, including fir bark, sphagnum, sponge rock, charcoal, and 40W fluorescent tubes. Call Rich Groll for details on pricing and availability.

The **CNYOS Club Library** is now located at St. Augustine's church. Make arrangements with Dianne Bordoni if you want to borrow an item from the Library.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR BLOOMING ORCHIDS FOR THE MONTHLY SHOW TABLE!!!



Phalaenopsis bellina (violetaceae), photograph by Vagisha Sharma, with digital enhancement by J. Stuart.

REFRESHMENT SCHEDULE

February 2001	Deb Coyle & Dianne Bordoni
March	Barb Weller & Nancy Powell
April	Dave & Jackie Churchill, Jen Wilson
May	Dolores Capella & Ken Renno
June	Need Volunteers
September	Donna Coleman & Monica Kot
October	Dave Ditz
November	Cheryl & Tom Lloyd
January 2002	Judi Witkin

GROUP ORDER TO HOOSIER ORCHIDS

Several members have expressed an interest in placing a club order to Hoosier Orchids. Hoosier Orchids specializes in species, especially Angraecoids, Pleurothalids, the Zygopetalums tribe. Clubs are eligible for a 15% discount as long as the order is over \$400 (which shouldn't be too hard!). A number of catalogs will be available for distribution at the February Meeting, and the Hoosier web site is <http://www.hoosierorchid.com/> Jeff Stuart (471-1404) will be handling the order, which must be complete by 2/15 for shipment by the March meeting.

STOS NEWS: NEWS FROM THE SOUTHERN TIER ORCHID SOCIETY

In February we will have a slide program entitled Angraecums for Small Places by Fred Hillerman. In March Greg Martin will speak on various aspects of orchid judging. Our show this year is April 26 - 29.

Monthly meetings begin at 2:00 PM in the Vestal Public Library. For directions, etc. call STOS president Dave Clemens at 570-879-4244 or e-mail him at <clemens@epix.net>.

GROS NEWS: NEWS FROM THE GENESEE REGION ORCHID SOCIETY

John Ellenberger, Joe Kunisch, and Jim Marlow will be answering your questions on orchid growing in an open forum discussion this month. You may submit your questions before the meeting to Jim Marlow or just ask the experts directly in the open forum discussion. We plan to cover a wide range of topics including, but not limited to questions on:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Fertilizers | Plant Diseases |
| Mixes and Media | Initiating Blooming |
| Water Quality | General Cultural Advice |

This meeting takes the place of the beginners meeting normally starting at 6:30. Beginners are encouraged to actively participate in this discussion. Bring in your distressed plants!

Taken with permission from *The Orchid Collection*, Newsletter of the Genesee Region Orchid Society, Vol. 23, No. 6, February 2000, Phil Matt, Newsletter Editor (716) 288-7025.

ENCYCLIA FRAGRANS & SCHOMBURGKIA TIBICINIS

This month we look at two selections from the *Cattleya* tribe, the common *Encyclia fragrans* and the less common *Schomburgkia tibicinis*. Both species have been obtained in the past from Andy's Orchids by the club for our biennial mounted orchids clinic.

ENCYCLIA FRAGRANS is one of a group of similar, non-resupinate orchids (*Enc. fragrans*, *radiata*, *chacaoensis*, etc.) which range throughout the lower elevations of Mexico, Central and South America. Indeed, many are sold misidentified and it would take a taxonomist to discern the subtle differences between them. Regardless of the identity, all are valuable additions to the orchid collection for their easy culture and deliciously fragrant flowers. Flowers of *Enc. fragrans* are cream-colored with some green, with the white lip streaked in red. A recent proposal separates all of these non-resupinate *Encyclias* into the genus *Prosthechea*. Intermediate to warm temperatures, bright *Cattleya* light and an open potting mix suit *Encyclia fragrans* best. Basket culture allows undisturbed growth and a specimen plant that will perfume the greenhouse with its sweet fragrance can be achieved in a few years.



Encyclia fragrans

© 2000 Greg Allikas

SCHOMBURGKIA TIBICINIS is a common species throughout much of Central America. It can be found growing on riverside boulders and trees where it thrusts its meter-long (or longer!) inflorescence to attract a pollinator. Several of these



Schomburgkia tibicinis

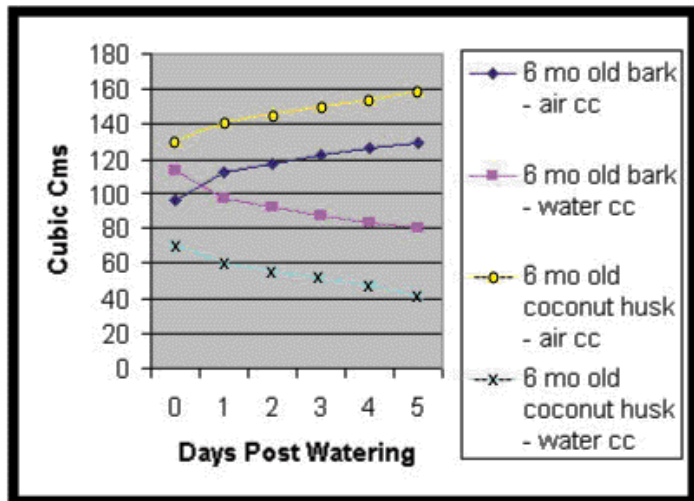
© 1997 Greg Allikas

Schomburgkias were transferred into the genus *Myrmecophila* by Rolfe in 1917. This name refers to the ants which are usually found living in old hollowed-out pseudobulbs. However, most people still call them *Schomburgkias*. Flowers are deep mahogany-red highlighted with lavender and an orange-veined lip. Here in Central New York, *Schomburgkia tibicinis* must be grown with as much light as possible to thrive—direct sun when possible!. The pseudobulbs of plants grown this way bear a resemblance to a bunch of bananas. Of course, you may also grow them conventionally in a pot in a greenhouse by giving them bright light and regular but not excessive water. Use an open potting mix.

Reference: The Orchid Photo Page by Greg Allikas: <http://www.orchidworks.com/>

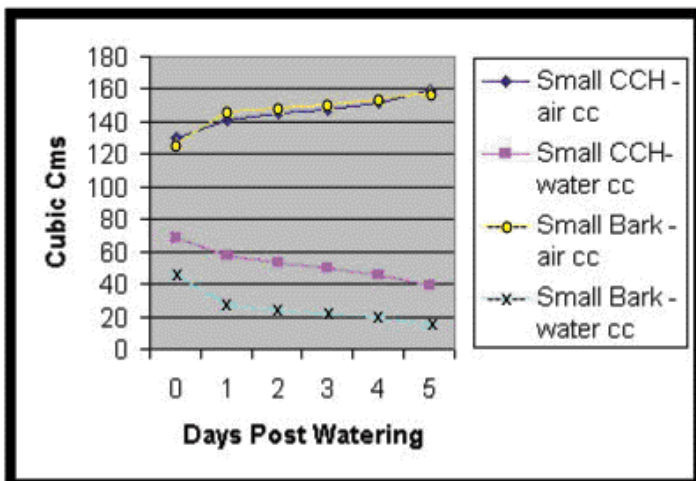
USE OF COCONUT HUSK CHIPS FOR POTTING MEDIUM: PART 2
BOB & LYNN WELLENSTEIN

One of the most encouraging signs that the plants like the coconut husk chips is that when we unpot them, all of the new roots are attaching themselves firmly to the cut fiber end of the husk chunks, as if they are seeking out their personal water and nutrient reservoirs. While we would find roots attached to bark chunks also, it occurred at no where near the rate it does with the husk chunks.



Comparison of Air & Water Holding Characteristics of Small Bark and Small Coconut Husk Chips After 6 Months of Greenhouse Use

coconut start out essentially the same, both with excellent aeration characteristics and with the coconut husk at an advantage in water capacity, but within six months in a pot in the greenhouse with regular watering, the fine bark has rapidly broken down, holding way too much water and not drying out, all at the expense of its ability to hold air. The coconut husk is still performing essentially the same as it did when fresh. As a result there will be far fewer complications when using coconut husk fiber if repotting is delayed, in fact we feel the only reason for annual repotting when using it will be to pot up because of the vigorous root growth we see with it.



Comparison of Air & Water Holding Characteristics of Small Fresh Bark and Small Fresh Coconut Husk Chips

Perhaps the most valuable improvement coconut husk chunks offer over bark is its resistance to breakdown and ability to maintain its characteristics over a long period of time. Coconut husks durability stems from having a lignin content five times that of bark, and the other components we use, aliflor and charcoal, also have quite good resistance to breakdown. The data and charts presented here for fresh media components, and a comparison of fine bark and fine coconut husk chips as a fresh product and after 6 months of greenhouse conditions and a watering, offer a striking difference between the two. The bark and

The chart following details some experimental findings with various mediums and medium components. All of the data was collected using 2.5 inch SVD "rose" pots (deeper than they are wide) in our greenhouse conditions. Relative humidity was in the 70% range during the test, with daytime temperatures in the low to mid 80's and night time temperatures in the mid 60's. The capacity of this pot is 246 cubic centimeters; the numbers listed in the first chart show the cubic centimeters of air and water retained in the pot with various mixes and mix components immediately after a

Days Post Watering -->	immediately	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days
	after watering					
CHC Paph Seedling Mix - air cc	128	145	151	154	160	164
CHC Paph Seedling Mix - water cc	72	53	47	44	38	34
CHC Phrag Seedling Mix - air cc	133	144	154	158	165	171
CHC Phrag Seedling Mix - water cc	83	72	62	58	51	45
CHC Adult Large Paph Mix - air cc	135	152	158	162	169	174
CHC Adult Large Paph Mix - water cc	80	63	57	53	46	41
Med Ailfor - air cc	124	141	145	148	153	155
Med Ailfor - water cc	31	14	10	7	2	0
Small Ailfor - air cc	108	122	128	131	136	141
Small Ailfor - water cc	45	31	25	22	17	12
Small CHC - air cc	130	141	145	148	152	159
Small CHC - water cc	68	57	53	50	46	39
Med CHC - air cc	130	147	154	160	165	174
Med CHC - water cc	98	81	74	68	63	54
Med Bark - air cc	143	165	168	170	173	176
Med Bark - water cc	37	15	12	10	7	4
Small Bark - air cc	127	146	149	151	154	158
Small Bark - water cc	46	27	24	22	19	15
Large Char - air cc	122	132	137	140	143	148
Large Char - water cc	49	39	34	31	28	23
Small Charcoal - air cc	107	115	118	120	123	126
Small Charcoal - water cc	38	30	27	25	22	19
Small Stones - air cc	114	122	128	130	134	138
Small Stones - water cc	28	20	14	12	8	4
#3 Spongerock - air cc	137	164	171	177	183	189
#3 Spongerock - water cc	52	25	18	12	6	0
Hort Perlite - air cc	115	132	139	144	151	155
Hort Perlite - water cc	91	74	67	62	55	51
NZ Sphag - air cc	136	162	176	192	201	210
NZ Sphag - water cc	87	61	47	31	22	13
6 mo old small bark - air cc	96	113	118	123	127	130
6 mo old small bark - water cc	114	97	92	87	83	80
6 mo old small coconut husk - air cc	131	141	146	150	154	159
6 mo old small coconut husk - water cc	70	60	55	51	47	42

TABLE 1: AIR AND WATER RETENTION FOR VARIOUS EXPERIMENTAL POTTING MEDIA

Key:

- Mixes - see formulas below
- CHC = Coconut Husk Chips
- Bark is Sequoia Brand
- Large Charcoal = #2
- Small Charcoal = #4
- Small stones = #1A crushed sandstone
- Horticultural Perlite = extra coarse
- New Zealand Sphagnum = a loose pack of long fiber moss

The following chart (next page) presents the same data as the percent of total volume of the pot:

Days Post Watering -->	Immediately	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days
	after watering					
CHC Paph Seedling Mix - air %	51	59	61	63	65	67
CHC Paph Seedling Mix - water %	29	22	19	18	15	14
CHC Phrag Seedling Mix - air %	54	59	63	64	67	70
CHC Phrag Seedling Mix - water %	34	29	25	24	21	18
CHC Adult Large Paph Mix - air %	55	62	64	66	69	71
CHC Adult Large Paph Mix - water %	33	26	23	22	19	17
Med Ailflor - air %	50	57	59	60	62	63
Med Ailflor - water %	13	6	4	3	1	0
Small Ailflor - air %	44	50	52	53	55	57
Small Ailflor - water %	18	13	10	9	7	5
Small CHC - air %	53	57	59	60	62	65
Small CHC - water %	28	23	22	20	19	16
Med CHC - air %	53	60	63	65	67	71
Med CHC - water %	40	33	30	28	26	22
Med Bark - air %	58	67	68	69	70	72
Med Bark - water %	15	6	5	4	3	2
Small Bark - air %	52	59	61	61	63	64
Small Bark - water %	19	11	10	9	8	6
Med Char - air %	50	54	56	57	58	60
Med Char - water %	20	16	14	13	11	9
Small Charcoal - air %	43	47	48	49	50	51
Small Charcoal - water %	15	12	11	10	9	8
Small Stones - air %	46	50	52	53	54	56
Small Stones - water %	11	8	6	5	3	2
#3 Spongerock - air %	56	67	70	72	74	77
#3 Spongerock - water %	21	10	7	5	2	0
Hort Perlite - air %	47	54	57	59	61	63
Hort Perlite - water %	37	30	27	25	22	21
NZ Sphag - air %	55	66	72	78	82	85
NZ Sphag - water %	35	25	19	13	9	5
6 mo old small bark - air %	39	46	48	50	52	53
6 mo old small bark - water %	46	39	37	35	34	33
6 mo old small coconut husk - air %	53	57	59	61	63	65
6 mo old small coconut husk - water %	28	24	22	21	19	17

TABLE 2: AIR AND WATER RETENTION FOR VARIOUS POTTING MEDIA AS PERCENT VOLUME

through watering and then at the intervals listed. There is a lot of data presented here, and a lot of information can be gained from its careful analysis, but that goes beyond the scope of this article. One important point I would like to emphasize is that the data on a mix component gathered from testing it alone will not always be predictive of its behavior as a minor component of a mixture of components. A case in point was experimentation with the # 1A sandstone. Lynn had made the

observation that when it was added to the CCH mixes, even in fairly small amounts, that it caused the mixes to dry out more slowly. I didn't feel this made any sense, as it held very little water itself, and suggested that this was just an illusion due to the increased weight of the pots. However, when the mixes were tested, it turned out to be true that the mix with stones dried out more slowly than that without. As a result it is now used only with the Phrags.

Mixes Currently in Use

Note on the Paph mixes: if they are to be used for calcicolous or ultrabasic growing Paphs, approximately 1/2 cup of pulverized dolomitic limestone is added to each 2 cubic feet of mix. The pulverized dolomite adheres quite nicely to the surface of the CHC, whereas it did not adhere well to bark.

Paph Seedling Mix 2.5 inch pots and under:

- 8 parts small CHC
- 2 parts medium CHC
- 3 parts small aliflor
- 1 part #4 (small) charcoal

Adult Paph Mix 3.5 inch pots and under:

- 3 parts small CHC
- 1 part medium CHC
- 2 parts small aliflor
- 1 part #2 (large) charcoal

Adult Paph Mix 4 inch pots and up:

- 4 parts medium CHC
- 1 part small aliflor
- 2 parts medium aliflor
- 1 part #2 charcoal

Phrag Mix 3 inch pots and smaller:

- 6 parts small CHC
- 4 parts medium CHC
- 1 part small aliflor
- 1 part #1A crushed sandstone
- 1 part #4 charcoal

Phrag Mix 3.5 inch pots and up:

- 4 parts medium CHC
- 1 part medium aliflor
- 1 part #1 crushed sandstone
- 1 part #2 charcoal

Bob & Lynn Wellenstein

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Part 1 of this article appeared in the January edition of *THE ORCHID ENTHUSIAST*. It can be found in its entirety at the AnTec Laboratory Ladyslipper Page, <http://www.ladyslipper.com/>

BULK SUPPLIES ORDER

CNYOS will soon be making another bulk order for supplies from OFE International (<http://www.ofe-intl.com/>), including fir bark, coconut husk chips, sphagnum moss, sponge-rock, and RD-20. CNYOS will continue to offer supplies in hobby-sized bags for only slightly over cost, but if you're interested in ordering your own supplies in bulk as part of this order, please contact Rich Groll for details. Ordering in bulk is often somewhat cheaper--especially in terms of shipping costs, and allows members to experiment with their own orchid-growing mixes.

CNYOS E-MAIL LIST GROWING!

The e-mail distribution list for the club is growing each month. If you have access to e-mail, and are not on the list, please contact Jeff Stuart so you can be included. Each month a quick note is sent out to on-line members reminding them of the upcoming meeting, as well as any other club-related news. Don't Miss Out!

Directions to Bloomfield Orchids

From the **NYS Thruway** (Rt. 90W), take **Exit 45** to **Rt. 490**. Once on Rt. 490, take the **Exit for Bushnell Basin**. At the end of the ramp, take a **Right onto Rt. 96**. Go about **1/4 mile** to **Thornell Road** and make the first **Left** (onto Thornell; this turn is **easy to miss**). Go to the end of Thornell Rd and make a **Left at the "T" onto Bloomfield Road**. Go about **1/2 mile** down Bloomfield Rd.; **Joe Kunisch lives on the right, although his mailbox (on Bloomfield Road) will be on the Left. His driveway is on the RIGHT**, and goes about 300 feet uphill to his brown house.

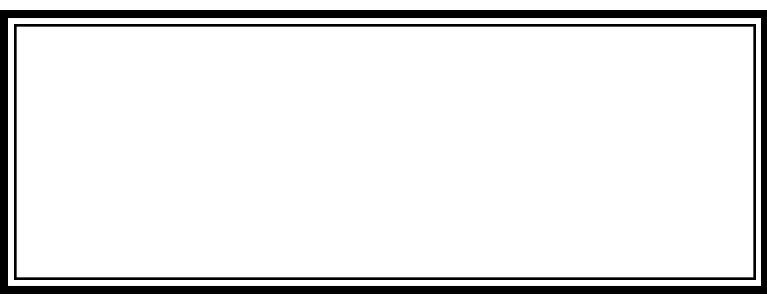
******DO NOT GO INTO THE NEIGHBOR'S DRIVEWAY (WHITE HOUSE) ON THE LEFT******

Park in the driveway and go through the open garage to the greenhouse in the back.

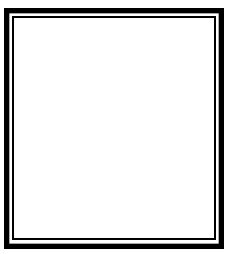
Paph. Edna Ratcliff 'Nike'AM/AOS ©Greg Allikas, 1996, Digitally enhanced by Jeff Stuart



Next regular meetings: Sunday, February 4th at 2:00pm
Please Note: Meet in room no. 6 of the church - see page one.



Pay Your Dues!



Please support CNYOS!

THE CENTRAL NEW YORK ORCHID SOCIETY
Your local AOS & Orchid Digest Affiliate
351 Kensington Place
Syracuse, NY 13210-3309

Central New York Orchid Society

- President:** Dave Ditz (315) 635-8148
- Vice President:** Gary Stensland (607) 842-6534
- Co-Vice President:** Cheryl Lloyd (315) 689-5017
- Treasurer:** Elinor Burton (315) 682-6274
- Secretary:** Barbara Weller (315) 468-5039
- Newsletter Editor:** Jeff Stuart (315) 471-1404

The Central New York Orchid Society meets at St. Augustine's Church, 7333 O'Brien Rd, Baldwinsville, at 2:00^{PM} on the first Sunday of each month from September through June. Yearly dues are \$15.00 per individual, or \$17.00 family. Dues should be paid to the CNYOS Treasurer, Elinor Burton.

THE ORCHID ENTHUSIAST

The **CNYOS** Newsletter, *The Orchid Enthusiast*, 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, or functions.

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