

# Massachusetts Orchid Society



**January: Denis Laperriere**

**Topic: The Montreal Botanical Garden  
Collection**

The Montréal Botanical Garden's orchid collection owes much to Henry Teuscher (1891-1984), the Garden's first curator and its co-founder. Very early on, in the 1940s and 1950s, he established close ties with various botanical gardens that were famous for their orchid collections. From 1945 to 1960, the collection was focused on South American species. Teuscher became increasingly interested in orchid taxonomy and even went on a few plant-finding trips himself, to Venezuela and other places.

A number of individuals including Brother Marie-Victorin and Pierre Bourque were inspired by Teuscher to bring orchids home from their own travels. This explains why the collection is mostly made up of species native to Central and South

America, with 30% Asian and/or Australian species and just 10% African species. Native orchids can also be seen in the Garden during the summer season. They can be found growing in the Shade Garden, under the trees.

Today, Denis Laperrière is one of two horticulturists responsible for this large collection. The Botanical Garden's orchid collection, one of the largest in North America, includes some highly valuable, prestigious prize-winning specimens. These awards are not only a tribute to the Montréal Botanical Garden, but are also another way of familiarizing people with this splendid collection.

Read the full article here:  
<http://espacepurlavie.ca/en/green-pages/plants/orchids>

## Plants for CAIOS Show

Show season is underway! MOS is participating in 4 shows in the next 3 months and we need plants to fill the MOS displays.

CAIOS Show, Jan 12-13

**Please bring plants to this  
Tuesday's MOS meeting!**

If you can't make it on Tuesday please get in touch with Sasha.

[sasha@massorchid.org](mailto:sasha@massorchid.org)



## Upcoming MOS Events

**January 8 –**

MOS Monthly Meeting

Speaker: Denis Laperriere

Topic: Montreal Botanical  
Garden Collection

**January 12-13 –**

Cape & Islands OS Show & Sale

[www.caios.org](http://www.caios.org)

**February 8-10 –**

NHOS Show & Sale

[www.nhorchids.org](http://www.nhorchids.org)

**February 12 –**

MOS Monthly Meeting

Speaker: Alvin Kho



## MOS Board

### President –

Sasha Varsanofieva  
[sasha@massorchid.org](mailto:sasha@massorchid.org)

### Vice President –

Adrienne Giovino  
[adrienne@massorchid.org](mailto:adrienne@massorchid.org)

### Secretary –

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## Committee Chairs

### Membership –

Adrienne Giovino  
[adrienne@massorchid.org](mailto:adrienne@massorchid.org)

### Newsletter –

Sasha Varsanofieva  
[newsletter@massorchid.org](mailto:newsletter@massorchid.org)

### Annual Show –

Joanna Eckstrom  
[show@massorchid.org](mailto:show@massorchid.org)

### Program –

Brigitte Fortin,  
Adrienne Giovino,  
Sasha Varsanofieva  
[speakers@massorchid.org](mailto:speakers@massorchid.org)



Show table  
photography by  
Sasha Varsanofieva.

MOS Holiday Party

## Membership

Thanks for being a member!

Did you know you can now pay for your membership online using PayPal? - log into your account on [www.massorchid.org](http://www.massorchid.org)  
- click "View Profile"  
- click the "Renew" button.

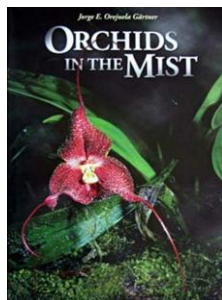
Or send your dues (\$25 individual/\$30 dual) to: Adrienne Giovino, 47 Spellman Rd, Westwood, MA 02090

Or pay in cash or check at a meeting.



## Book Review: Orchids in the Mist: Orchids of the Cloud Forests of Southwestern Colombia

By Jorge E. Orejuela Gärtner



This gorgeous book is different from the typical orchid book. In addition to the beautiful photographs and catalog of species, it is designed to be read. The foreword by Stuart Pimm, a well-known conservationist, sets the stage for a look at the

biodiversity of Colombia. The book starts with an easy-to-read introduction to the orchid family illustrated with drawings and photographs. The natural history of orchids is discussed, including habitats, pollinators and the evolutionary success of the family. Then the author zeros in on the cloud forests of Colombia, revealing both flora and fauna along with the orchids of the mist. Not to be overlooked, the ethnic and cultural diversity of the peoples of the region and their interaction with the forest is presented. The major genera of orchids found in the cloud forest are summarized before the expected nicely illustrated catalog of species.

- Wesley E. Higgins, PhD





An occasional column answering questions and providing orchid growing information. Some of this information is derived from the AOS member site and some from fellow MOS members. I've been growing orchids for about eight years, still a beginner, and this is a good way to learn and share. To keep the column lively and timely, please contribute your questions and comments to: [joan@massorchid.org](mailto:joan@massorchid.org)

## Ask Joan

**Q:** Dear Joan,

What is a Dtps? I was given one for Christmas. It's pretty and pink, and it looks like a Phalaenopsis to me.

**A:** I think you have a Doritaenopsis, a hybrid between a Doritis and a Phalaenopsis. The tiny Doritis pulcherrima, the only species in the genus, is a terrestrial; it was first crossed with a phal in 1923 and considered a Phalaenopsis until 1966 when it became Doritaenopsis. The original, Doritis, meaning spear in Greek, had more of a "cornstalk look to it and was taller and rangier than the Phal with more space between the leaf sets than phals. Crossing produced larger flowers and sprays well-spaced on the spike."

Doritaenopsis hybrids are summer flowering and have long spikes. Taiwanese breeders have produced varied interesting colors and forms and patterns to equal those of the phals as well as worked to intensify the deep color and thickened leaves. So many of the beautiful pink phals you see are Doritaenopsis, in reality, but colors may run to cerise and purple too.

Dtps tend to be more erect, sturdier and easier to grow plants. As for care, they want a 15 degree difference between day and night temperatures, a fertilizer which encourages blooming, and they should dry out between waterings. Try rain water. Put a pail of water outside, rain or snow, when it freezes bring it in, let it get to room temperature and use it to water your orchids.



Doritis pulcherrima



Dtps. I-Hsin Purple Jewel

## Orchid of the Month: Phragmipedium besseae

Phragmipedium besseae is a beautiful red orchid (f. flavum is a yellow form of the species) with excellent color and shape. The species is widely used in hybridizing, and is in the parentage of most popular Phrag. hybrids, including Phrag. Don Wimber, Phrag. Jason Fischer, and many others. Its bright red color is actually carried on a fuzzy layer above the tepals; the yellow flavum form lacks the red pigment so that the underlying color shows through. The foliage is attractive too; it looks a lot like a daylily. Sometimes there will be long rhizomes that grow over the edge of the pot; just bend them back into the pot before roots start to grow, or move to a larger pot.

Interest in Phragmipediums was minimal before this species was discovered in 1981. (They come from Ecuador and Peru.) But discovery of such a brightly-colored, showy flower led to a significant increase people growing Phrags. At the time, few orchidists knew how to grow these plants, and most grew them like Paphiopedilums so that they didn't have enough light or water.

In nature, these plants grow in rainforest environments next to mountain streams. They like pure water and a LOT of it. It's impossible to overwater these plants unless

you put them completely underwater so that the leaves can't breathe. Many people set them in a dish of water. I suggest watering at least daily. Put them in a potting mix that retains a fair amount of moisture, such as sphagnum moss or rockwool. Fine fir bark can work well too. Though they grow on the ground next to streams in nature, I don't suggest a typical terrestrial orchid potting mix, as they tend to be lithophytes growing in moss, leaf litter, and so forth, which more closely resembles how an epiphytic orchid would grow.

They can bloom at any time of year, though they bloom most in spring or when temperatures are cool. Flowers will appear one at a time, appearing sequentially on the flower stem and lasting a couple weeks each. An inflorescence can last 3 or more months on a happy plant. (Larger specimens may stay in bloom continuously.) Temperatures should be intermediate. Provide high humidity. Light should be intermediate, about 2000 footcandles.

Full Article: <http://www.orchid-care-tips.com/phragmipedium-besseae.html>



## December Show Table Results

Plant	Owner
Epidendrum ciliare	Bob Richter
C. Swan Lake	Brigitte Fortin
C. labiata v. semi alba x C. perrinii	Brigitte Fortin
Blc. Amy Wakasugi BM/JOGA	Derek Scuteri
Masdevallia packyura	Joe Rajunas
Blra. Marfithch 'Howard's Dream' AM/AOS	Brandt Moran
Onc. ornithoryncum 'Rose' x 'Sellon'	Warren & Sue Wheelwright
Dend. Aussie Treat	Brandt Moran
Dend. Classic Gemx self	Andrew Thompson
Onc. Mex 'Woodland Bounty'	Joan Gitlin

In an effort to get our meetings started by 7:30, we kindly request that show table plants be ready for judging by **7:15pm.**



December Show Table







**Cape & Islands Orchid Society  
24th Annual Orchid Show  
"Orchid Garden"**

January 12th & 13th, 9 – 5  
[www.caios.org](http://www.caios.org)

Resort & Conference Center at Hyannis  
35 Scudder Ave. Hyannis, MA 02601

Preview Dinner Party  
Friday, January 11th at 6pm  
Preview the Show Before Opening Day  
Vendor Area Open after Dinner  
Awards Ceremony

Cash Bar \$45/pp

Reservation Details: [http://caios.org/images/  
Orchid\\_Garden\\_Buffer\\_Dinner.pdf](http://caios.org/images/Orchid_Garden_Buffer_Dinner.pdf)

# J&L Orchids January Thaw Sale

**Everything is 20% Off!!\***

**January 26 – February 3**

**9 - 4 each day including Sunday**

**Lots of New Plants!**

*We have been working hard to propagate plants to make sure we have an exciting selection of unusual species and hybrids.*

*We are offering for the first time at this sale, plants we imported this summer from India that are now established.*

*We also have some special plants that are in limited quantities and available only at the sale!*

***Come chase away the Winter Blues***

[www.jlorchids.com](http://www.jlorchids.com)

20 Sherwood Rd, Easton, CT 06612, (203) 261-3772  
\*at greenhouse only

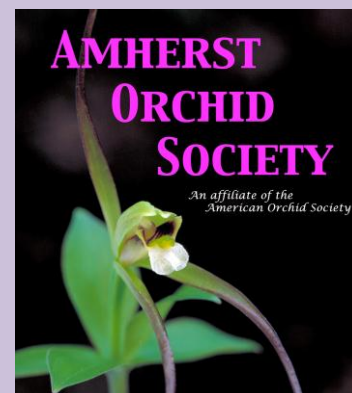


**New Hampshire Orchid Society  
Annual Orchid Show  
"Orchid Odyssey"**  
[www.nhorchids.org](http://www.nhorchids.org)

Radisson Hotel  
11 Tara Blvd., Nashua, NH  
Tel. 603-888-9970

Friday Feb 8: 1 pm to 7 pm  
Saturday Feb 9: 9 am to 5 pm  
Sunday Feb 10: 9 am to 4 pm

Price:  
Adults \$10 / Seniors (65+) \$6  
Over 100 and Children under 12 are Free  
3 Day Daytime Pass \$15



**Amherst Orchid Society  
Annual Orchid Show**

Smith Vocational School  
8 Locust St (Route 9), Northampton, MA

Saturday, Feb 23 - 9 to 5

Sunday, Feb 24 - 10 to 4

Admission: \$3, under 12 free

[www.larchhillorchids.com/  
amherst\\_orchid\\_society.html](http://www.larchhillorchids.com/amherst_orchid_society.html)

## Upcoming Events

Date & Time	Event	Location
Tue, January 8, 7:30pm	Monthly MOS Meeting Speaker: Denis Laperriere	Arlington Senior Center 27 Maple St, Arlington, MA
Sat-Sun, January 12-13, 9am-5pm	Cape & Islands OS Annual Show <a href="http://www.caios.org">www.caios.org</a>	Resort & Conf. Center at Hyannis 35 Scudder Ave, Hyannis, MA
January 26-February 3, 9-4pm	J&L Orchids January Thaw Sale <a href="http://www.jlorchids.com">www.jlorchids.com</a>	J&L Orchids Greenhouse 20 Sherwood Rd, Easton, CT
Sat, February 2, 10:30am	Monthly Regional AOS Judging	Tower Hill Botanic Garden 11 French Drive, Boylston, MA
Fri-Sun, February 8-10	NHOS Annual Show <a href="http://www.nhorchids.org">www.nhorchids.org</a>	Radisson Hotel , 11 Tara Blvd, Nashua, NH
Tue, February 12, 7:30pm	Monthly MOS Meeting Speaker: Alvin Kho	Arlington Senior Center 27 Maple St, Arlington, MA



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