

July Judging

As we approach the latter part of summer, pay attention to the weather and the affects it has on your orchids. Hot and humid weather will be around for a couple of more months along with the increasing threat of tropical storms. Orchids love air movement and will benefit from fans running day and night during the summer. A couple of inexpensive box fans can move enough air on a backyard patio to keep your plants cool and happy, and help dry their leaves after a bout of hot, humid, rainy evenings. Those fans usually have speed controls and you can adjust them to lower settings for the night. Air movement also helps bacteria and fungus spores from settling on your orchids.

Tropical storms and hurricanes require immediate attention with your plants. If you grow orchids on your patio and don't have too many, then bring them inside the house. They can take a few days of no sunlight and water without too much stress. If you have many orchids in a greenhouse or outside under trees, then remove them from their benches and hangers and set them on the ground, possibly against a wall or other object that might act as a windbreak. Be sure to spread Snail bait around your orchids. After the storm is over, get your orchids back on the benches and hangers and water liberally to wash off debris as soon as you can. As an extra layer of protection, apply a fungicide and/or bactericide, and remove any damaged leaves and dead growth.

Vandaceous Group: 1 entry

1st V. denisoniana David Schaffter

Cattleya Group: 2 entries

1st Bc. Nok Noi David Schaffter

2nd Bc. Fuchs Star Aurora Trajkovic

Phalaenopsis Group: 1 entry

1st Phal. cornu-cervi Gilda Nolasco

East Everglades Orchid Society thanks **David Schaffter, Erna Maxwell, Gilda Nolasco, and Deborah Trajkovic** for judging the members' orchids.