



Ottawa Orchid Society  
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This month's meeting...

**Sunday, October 19, 2008 @ 1:30p.m.**  
**Tom Brown Arena, 141 Bayview, Ottawa**



#### Annual Ottawa Orchid Society Auction!!!

**Going, going, GONE!** Well, the Thanksgiving turkey may be gone but our annual auction is taking place at this month's monthly meeting. Be sure to come, bring your friends, plan to have a lot of fun and maybe even get some great stuff. Over the years we have had orchid art work, beautiful framed orchid photography, orchid jewellery, exceptional orchid plants, orchid growing material, and even a complete hydroponic lighting system sold to the highest bidder. These auctions are possible because of generous donations from members. So please have a look at your orchids, maybe you can provide a division or donation of one of your plants for the auction. Have a glance through your orchid library, your stock of orchid supplies, your art work or your dresser drawer for that orchid pin you no longer wear. No donations are too small, but please, if donating plants, do not donate plants with pests or viruses. And remember, no auction is a successful auction without bidders. Bring your quarters and loonies and be prepared to wave your hand with gusto when you see something you may want. Our auctioneer will be happy to take your bids to raise money to support our Society's activities.

#### Orchids 101

Orchids 101 for beginners (and those looking for a refresher) begins at 12:30 p.m. sharp. **Marilyn Light** will be unavailable to give her usual presentation. Arrangements are being made for an alternate lecturer who will give a valued presentation. Regrets, we do not have the topic to be presented at this time.

Don't forget to bring your blooming orchids to our monthly show table.

**The Ottawa Orchid Society meets every third Sunday of every month from September to May inclusive at 1:30 P.M. at the Tom Brown Arena, 141 Bayview, Ottawa. Guests are welcome.**

**MEMBERSHIP: \$25 from September 1 - August 31.**

## ***A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT (AND EDITOR)***

Last year, Informal arrangements had been made with a professional photographer with no affiliation to our Society to have photographs taken of all our show exhibits and the orchids that won either an award or a ribbon. Unfortunately, photographs were never provided and the only record we have are a few photographs taken by a number of Society members who shared these photos with us and that appeared in our May 2008 newsletter. At the last monthly meeting, **Michael Barker**, a member of our Society, provided your editor with 2 CDs of pictures he took of exhibits and individual plants at our 2008 annual show. A lot of the photographs are quite beautiful and are a wonderful record of some very stunning orchids and artistic exhibits. The CDs will be passed to our web master shortly for inclusion on our Society's web site. Thank you, Michael, for your work and sharing these pictures with us. Below are 3 examples of Michael's efforts: a phalaenopsis in an exhibit created by Robert St-Jean; a beautiful Ikebana display created by a member of the Ikebana Ottawa community; and, last but not least, a stunning orchid exhibit put together by **Lynne Guimond** and **Santos Peixe** of Exotic Orchids Plus, Green Valley, Ontario. Thank you very much, Michael. Great photos!!!!

Rick Sobkowicz



## **SOCIETYBULLETIN BOARD**



### **NEWMEMBERS!**

A hearty welcome is extended to the following new members who joined our Society:

#1166 **Marilyn P. Johnston**

#1167 **Natasha Joukovskaia**

#1168 **Elizabeth & Kaz Kaminska**

So far, our membership stands at 77 paid members (new members and renewals). Normally, our membership ranges between 100 to 150 members. If you have not renewed your membership and plan to do so, you can make your payment to **Theresa Lafleur**, the Membership Coordinator, at the October monthly meeting or mail your cheque to the Society mailbox address on the front of Spike. Please be sure to include your e-mail address so that we can send you announcements as the need arises.



### **LIBRARY – Jane Thompson**

Health problems in orchids are an ongoing concern for all orchid lovers. In the September 2008 issue of Orchids (the AOS Bulletin) there is a particularly interesting article on viruses that are showing up in commercially raised Phals. I will make a point of bringing this issue and placing it on the reading table for members to read. Unfortunately this issue cannot be loaned out yet, but it is not a long article and I will bring the magazine for the next few months to allow everyone who wishes to, to read it at the meeting.

Please don't forget to peruse the list of Library Books on our web site and feel free to request any book you wish. I apologize to those who have tried to contact me at my old yahoo e-mail address: this should read [janehmthompson@gmail.com](mailto:janehmthompson@gmail.com).



### **HOSPITALITY SERVICE AT MONTHLY MEETINGS**

The Board is pleased to announce that thanks to **Linda Schopf**, we will be able to continue with our hospitality service at monthly meetings for the next several months. Linda Schopf has volunteered to look after making the coffee, getting supplies and setting things up for the use and pleasure of members. **Glen Hansen**, another Society member, has volunteered to assist Linda as needed and when he can. All donations of home baked cookies and other such treats will be happily and graciously accepted.



### **FLASKING SERVICE FOR OOS MEMBERS**

**Linda Schopf** has set up her lab and is able to offer a flasking service for OOS members who have seed or pods that they would like to have sown. Members interested in more information can speak to Linda at monthly meetings or can call her at 613-283-3940. Linda's e-mail address is [dragonfly\\_3@xplornet.com](mailto:dragonfly_3@xplornet.com).



### **ANNUAL OTTAWA ORCHID SOCIETY AUCTION**

This month's auction is one of two major Society undertakings, the other being our annual show, organized to raise money to support the running costs of our Society. Your donations are critical to the success of this effort. If you have friends and acquaintances who you think may be interested to bid, do bring them along. Every bit helps us to continue to provide programs and monthly speakers that the funds raised go to pay. We hope we will receive great things to auction and that many of you will be happy with the articles you buy. Good luck with your bidding!



### **GROUP ORDER FROM EXOTIC ORCHIDS OF MAUI**

The October monthly meeting is your last opportunity to get in on the Society group order from Exotic Orchids of Maui. There may still be some catalogs left to view.

## SEPTEMBER SHOW TABLE JUDGING RESULTS - Sept. 21,2008

Note there were no Cattleyas and Cymbidiums

CLASS	PLACE	NAME	OWNER
Oncidium judged by Peter Lin	1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Odcdm.</i> Tiger Crow 'Golden Girl' HCC/AOS	Geraldine Hebert
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>Brassidium</i> Fly Away 'Miami' HCC/AOS*	Angèle Biljan
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>Onc. ornithorhynchum</i> *	Audrey Ballard
Dendrobium judged by Peter Lin	1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Den. rigidum</i>	Helgi Fatovic
Peurothallid judged by Peter Lin	1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Lepanthes gargoyla</i>	Joyce Medcalf
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	* <i>Specklinia tribuloides</i>	Angèle Biljan
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>Stelis hirtella</i>	Joyce Medcalf
Phalaenopsis judged by Joyce Medcalf	1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Phal.</i> I-Hsin Flying Fire	Geraldine Hebert
Vanda judged by Joyce Medcalf	1 <sup>st</sup>	* <i>Vanda</i> (V.) (Mem. Fred Fuchs x Jimmy Miller)	Angèle Biljan
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	V. Robert's Delight	Helgi Fatovic
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	V. Gordon Dillon	Rita Shand
Paphiopedilum judged Joyce Medcalf	1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Paph.</i> Mint Imperial ( <i>fairrieatum</i> x Meon)**	Helgi Fatovic
Phragmipedium judged by Joyce Medcalf	1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Phrag.</i> Desormes' 'Paul's Pride'	Angèle Biljan
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>Phrag. Caudatum</i> 'Ron'	Angèle Biljan
Lycaste judged by Joyce Medcalf	1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Lycaste</i> ( <i>Lyc.</i> ) Mark 'Delight' JC/AOS	Marlene Young
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>Lyc.</i> Pamela Annan- Brady	Marlene Young
Miscellaneous judged by Joyce Medcalf	1 <sup>st</sup>	* <i>Bulb. eberhardtii</i> now <i>Bulb. longiflorum</i>	Roger Côté / Jean Hollebhone
Miniature judged by Joyce Medcalf	1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Den. rigidum</i>	Helgi Fatovic
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>Specklinia tribuloides</i>	Angèle Biljan
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>Phal. tetrapsis</i>	Janet Johns
Novice judged by Joyce Medcalf	1 <sup>st</sup>	* <i>Anoectochilus burmannicus</i>	Dexter Hawn
BEST IN CLASS		<i>Lyc.</i> Mark 'Delight' JC/AOS	Marlene Young

Thanks to our two judges, **Peter Lin** and **Joyce Medcalf**. Thanks to all those who participated. There were many high quality, well-cared for orchids. The \* indicates slight spelling errors. Congratulations to all our winners and grateful thanks to everyone who brought their blooming orchids to the show table.



From top, left: *Phrag.* Desormes 'Paul's Pride' grown by Angèle Biljan; *Phal. tetrapsis*, grown by Janet Johns; and, *Vanda* Robert's Delight grown by Helgi Fatovic. Photos by Arlene Lang.



From top left, *Phrag. caudatum* 'Ron' grown by Angèle Biljan; *Brassidium* Fly Away 'Miami' HCC /AOS, Angèle Biljan; and, *Lyc.* Mark 'Delight' JC/AOS, Marlene Young. Photos by Arlene Lang.



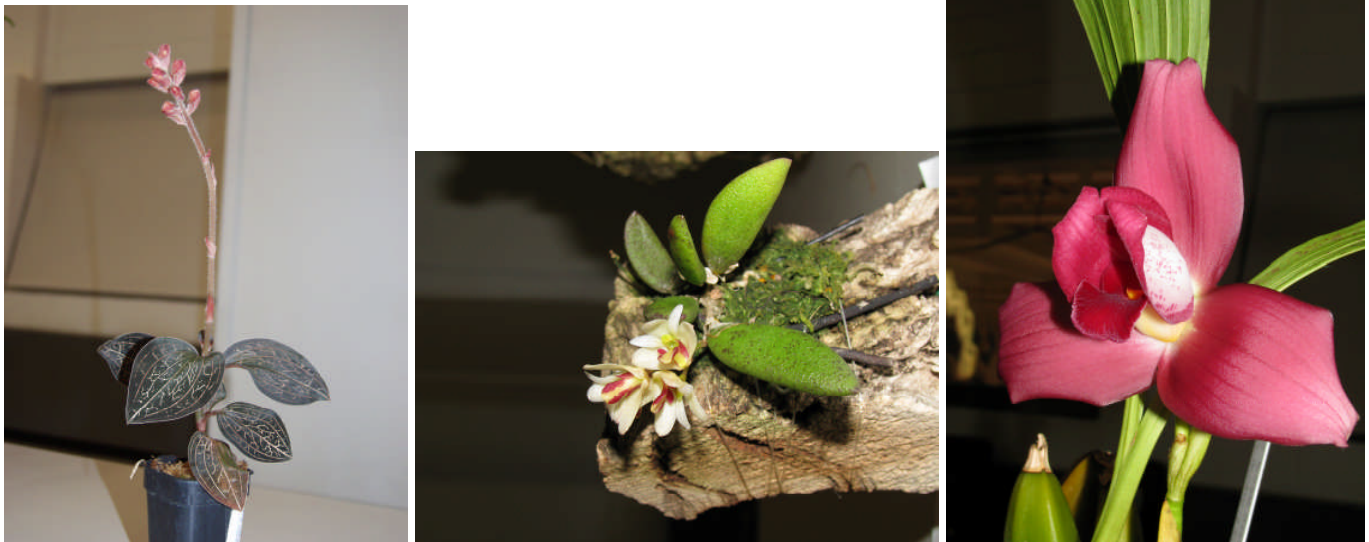
From top left, *Paph.* Mint Imperial grown by Helgi Fatovic; *Odcdm.* Tiger Crow 'Golden Girl', HCC/AOS grown by Geraldine Hebert; and, *Oncidium* Howeara Lava Burst grown by Janet Sutherland. Photos by Arlene Lang.



From top left, *Lepanthes gargoyle* grown by Joyce Medcalf; *Beallara Smile* ERI grown by Angèle Biljan; and, *Oncidium (Onc.) ornithorhynchum* grown by Audrey Ballard. Photos by Arlene Lang.



From top left, *Vanda Gordon Dillon* grown by Rita Shand; *Bulb. eberhardtii* now *Bulb. longiflorum* grown by Roger Côté and Jean Hollebhone; and, *Phragmipedium* species ('Ron' x self) grown by Angèle Biljan. Photos by Arlene Lang.



From top left, *Anectochilus burmannicus* (Jewel Orchid) grown by Dexter Hawn; *Dendrobium rigidum* grown by Helgi Fatovic; and, *Lyc. Pamela Annan-Brady* grown by Marlene Young. Photos by Arlene Lang.

Image on the right is that of *Specklinia tribuloides* grown by Angèle Biljan, photo taken by Arlene Lang.



All of Arlene's images have been reduced in size by as much as 80 to - 85% in order to fit in this newsletter. To see the exceptional detail of the flowers, you have to view Arlene's images in their full size to fully appreciate her mastery of the digital camera. Some of Arlene's flowers sparkle as if made from fine crystal. Is this what insects see?

There are many other photos of the September show table taken by Yanick Champoux and found by going to the following link: <http://ottawaorchidsociety.com/society/meetings/2008-09>. If you like what you see, do not hesitate to let our photographers know. Arlene can be contacted at [arlene.lang@gmail.com](mailto:arlene.lang@gmail.com) and Yanick can be reached by e-mail at [yanick@babyl.dyndns.org](mailto:yanick@babyl.dyndns.org).

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### **CENTRAL ONTARIO ORCHID SOCIETY (COOS) SHOW**

The Central Ontario Orchid Society Show (COOS) held at the Hespeler Arena in Cambridge, Ontario on Sept 27-28, 2008 was a moderate sized show with very high quality, beautiful plants and very friendly, helpful members. The Ottawa Orchid Society (OOS) entered 14 categories and won 14 prizes on 12 entries, plus a first for best society exhibit. You have seen most of these plants on September's show table and it speaks to the good growing culture of our members that we were so successful. Congratulations to the winners listed below. Please do not hesitate to approach them for information on their culture conditions and for help to answer your growing questions. We hope to see even more OOS plants entered for the Eastern Canada Orchid Society (ECOS) Orchid Show in Montreal on October 25-26.

#### **1st Place:**

Visiting Orchid Society, **Ottawa Orchid Society**  
*Lycaste* Pamela Annan-Brady grown by **Marlene Young**  
*Dendrobium rigidum*, miniature grown by **Helgi Fatovic**  
*Bulbophyllum eberhardtii*, grown by **Roger Côté** and **Jean Hollebhone**  
Floral Corsage: *Phalaenopsis* **Jean Hollebhone**  
Floral arrangement with 2 purple cattleyas **Jean Hollebhone**

#### **2nd Place:**

*Paph.* Mint Imperial grown by **Helgi Fatovic**  
Pleurothallid: *Specklinia tribuloides* grown by **Angèle Biljan**  
Miniature: *Phal. tetrapsis* grown by **Janet Johns**  
Floral corsage: *Phalaenopsis* and *dendrobium* **Jean Hollebhone**

#### **3rd Place:**

*Oncdm.* Tiger Crow 'Golden Girl' HCC/AOS grown by **Geraldine Hebert**  
*Phrag.* Silver Rose grown by **Angèle Biljan**  
*Phrag.* Desormes 'Paul's Pride' grown by **Angèle Biljan**  
Miniature pleurothallid: *Acianthera sonderiana* grown by **Angèle Biljan**  
Pleurothallid: *Specklinia tribuloides* grown by **Angèle Biljan**

Sincere thanks to everyone who donated plants and floral arrangements to the Ottawa Orchid Society exhibit and a special thanks to **Jean Hollebhone** for transporting and setting up the Society display at the COOS show.

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### **MEMBERS' PLANTS NEEDED FOR SOCIETY DISPLAY AT ECOS SHOW**

**Marlene Young** and **Joyce Medcalf** will be setting up the Ottawa Orchid Society display at the upcoming Eastern

Canada Orchid Society (ECOS) orchid show being held in Montreal this upcoming October 25-26<sup>th</sup>. If you have blooming orchids for the Society display, you can either bring your plants to the upcoming monthly meeting or drop them off at the home of **Janet Johns** (149 St. Laurent Blvd., tel.#613-749-0614) before 1:00 pm on Thursday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>, if you live in the east end of Ottawa, or at **Rick Sobkowicz's / Margaret Haydon's** home (13 Sandringham Court, Nepean, tel.#613-825-0827) by Thursday evening, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Rick will pick up the plants from Janet's home and will have everything ready for pick up by Marlene and Joyce on Friday morning. Marlene and Joyce will return everything to Rick's home later Sunday evening.

Please call Janet or Rick to arrange a suitable time for dropping off your plant(s)!

Link to map for Rick and Margaret's home:

<http://www.canada411.ca/res/6138250827/R-Sobkowicz/9429588/Map.html>

Link to Janet's home:

<http://www.canada411.ca/res/6137490614/J-Johns/8993249.html>

If you are providing plants for the Society display, Marlene and Joyce would be very grateful if you would do the following things:

- 1- Put your name on the pot- on the back or underneath.
- 2-Put your name and list of plants INSIDE the box AND on the OUTSIDE of the box
- 3-Include the parentage of hybrids, if possible.
- 4-Please ensure the name on the plant tag is spelled correctly
- 5-Pack plants carefully so they are protected from wobbling & from the elements during transport. Stake for transport and for best display, as appropriate.
- 6-\*\*\*Please, please no extraneous decorative pots! (We will not use them and do not want to lose them.)
- 7-Clean the foliage - use water or water with a little milk. Never use plant shine products
- 8-Remove any damaged/old flowers and leaves
- 9-check well for bugs!

PLEASE, e-mail Joyce Medcalf, before Wednesday night, Oct22, with the list of your plants (if you have email), [jmedcalf@1000island.net](mailto:jmedcalf@1000island.net)

Thanks.  
Joyce and Marlene

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Michael K. Warren**

It is with sadness that we report that Michael passed away quite suddenly at his home this summer from a heart attack. Michael had been a member of the Society for only a few years but took great pleasure admiring plants on the show table. He would help where he could, sometimes with the show table and at our show. He took great delight spending hours sitting on a bench beneath a tree, in the shade or on his balcony, enjoying nature in blissful rapture. Michael was a quiet gentleman and will be missed by those who knew him. Our sincerest condolences to his family and friends.

### **POTTING WITH PEANUTS**

It appears that not all Styrofoam packing peanuts are created equal!

**White:** New production peanuts, safe to use. The S-shaped ones are best; avoid those shaped like saucers because they can hold water too long.

**Green:** Recycled materials, safe to use.

**Pink:** Given an anti-static treatment for packaging with electronics; harmful to roots, do not use.

**Blue:** Also anti-static for easier handling but not as heavily treated as the pink; best to avoid for potting.

**Figure 8:** These are sponge-like and softer than other types so can compress and cause stagnation; best avoided for potting.

**Starch:** Similar to pale Cheetos and are made from potato starch. They dissolve easily in water; not suitable for potting for obvious reasons.

Tip courtesy of the Tacoma Orchid Society

(Editor's note: One Society member expressed some concern about the adverse affect Styrofoam materials may have on our environment. "**Safe to use**" does not necessarily mean a product is good for our environment. In this instance, orchid growers are simply recycling a product manufactured for a purpose totally unrelated to orchid growing. Whether we use such products or not, this material is already made and will eventually end up in landfills and elsewhere. If there is any consolation to be found in recycling Styrofoam peanuts, it is that someone, somewhere is not using up energy and energy to produce something more acceptable to orchid growers and our environment.

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## **MEMBER REQUESTS FOR HARDCOPY NEWSLETTER**

An increasing number of Society members are requesting hard copies of Spike be sent to them as in the past. A majority of members requesting Spike have offered to pay an extra amount over and above the annual membership dues for this service. The matter was discussed at some length at the last Board of Directors meeting. A motion was made and the decision taken to charge \$14.00 per annum for this service. This amount will cover the cost of black on white photocopying (80 per month, 10 issues per year), mailing (52 per month and rising), and the cost for envelopes and address labels. This amount is subject to change as costs increase.

If you wish to have Spike mailed to you, please pay the Membership Coordinator, Theresa Lafleur, \$14.00. There is no charge to members accessing Spike on the web and printing off their own personal copies.

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **2008**

**Oct 25-26:** Eastern Canada Orchid Society at the Days Inn Hotel, 1005 rue Guy (near intersection of René Lévesque Blvd.), in downtown Montreal. Phone 450 -467-4795, website: <http://www.ecosorchids.ca/>. Show times: Sat. 12:00-6:00 pm; Sunday: 9:00-5:00 pm.

**Nov. 1:** Toronto Centre AOS Judging, 1:00pm, Toronto Botanical Garden, Edwards Gardens, 777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto. Contact person: Mario Ferrusi, 905 -892-4187, e-mail: [mferrusi@sympatico.ca](mailto:mferrusi@sympatico.ca).

**Nov 8-9:** Niagara Region OS, CAW Hall 124 Bunting Rd, St. Catharines, Ont Contact: Jodi Shannon, Show Chairperson Phone: 905-641-1934, "<http://www.niagaraorchidsociety.org/>"

**Nov.15:** Montreal AOS Judging, Montreal Botanical Garden, 4101 Sherbrooke St. East (& Pie IX Blvd.), 1:00 pm, contact person: Howard Ginsberg, 514-878-1900 or 514-871-0205, e-mail: [orchids@bedfordorchids.com](mailto:orchids@bedfordorchids.com).

**Dec.6:** Toronto Centre AOS Judging, 1:00pm, Toronto Botanical Garden, Edwards Gardens, 777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto. Contact person: Mario Ferrusi, 905 -892-4187, e-mail: [mferrusi@sympatico.ca](mailto:mferrusi@sympatico.ca).

## 2009

**Jan.3:** Toronto Centre AOS Judging, 1:00pm, Toronto Botanical Garden, Edwards Gardens, 777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto. Contact person: Mario Ferrusi, 905-892-4187, e-mail: [mferusi@sympatico.ca](mailto:mferusi@sympatico.ca).

**February 4-8:** The Quito Orchid Expo, the show, with many of the 4,000 orchid species of Ecuador, will be the Third Scientific Conference on Andean Orchids, plus a series of Roundtable sessions on Orchid Painting, Orchid Photography, Orchid Conservation in Ecuador, and Orchid Culture. "<http://www.quitoorchidexpo2009.org/>"

**Feb. 14-15:** Southern Ontario Orchid Society's (SOOS) 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Orchid Show and Sale. Further details to be announced.

### **GOING TO MONTREAL TO THE ECOS ORCHID SHOW?**

Every year, there are Society members who would love to visit the ECOS Orchid Show but are unable to do so as they do not have a vehicle. If you are going and have room in your vehicle for an added passenger or more, please let your Society President know at the upcoming October monthly meeting. He will put you in touch with a member looking for a ride. This is a great way to help and get to know a fellow member.

### **AN ORCHID FOR HALLOWEEN**

Draculas are a type of orchid. The orchid genus *Dracula* consists of 123 species. The strange name *Dracula* literally means "little dragon", referring to the strange aspect of the two long spurs of the sepals. They were once included in the genus *Masdevallia*, but became a separate genus in 1978. This genus has some of the more bizarre and well-known species of the subtribe *Pleurothallidinae*.

The image on the right is that of *Dracula inexpectata* - © Daniel Jimenez. Lovely "little dragon".

Generally, draculas demand cool growing temperatures. A handful of draculas can tolerate slightly higher temperatures, although most cannot. Take note of the origin of the particular plants you are growing for a hint on their temperature requirements. Higher elevation plants tend to thrive in an a cooler environment than lower elevation plants. In general, a range of 55° - 70° F is good for draculas. Try to avoid temperatures above 80° F for a sustained period of time. If higher temperatures cannot be avoided, ensure that the night temperatures drop at least 10 degrees to give your draculas a break.

