



# Southern Tier Orchid Society

[WWW.SOUTHERNTIERORCHIDS.ORG](http://WWW.SOUTHERNTIERORCHIDS.ORG)

## *December Highlight: Holiday Party*

### *We look forward to closing a wonderful year with an amazing group of people -*

Our annual holiday party will take place on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, from 1:30 -4:30PM at the Vestal United Methodist Church in the Dining Hall. The events committee has arranged for a small selection of entrees including Turkey Breast and Ham to be provided by the club, and members are encouraged to bring their favorite holiday dishes, sides, or treats to share. As a special treat, the auction committee has purchased an assortment of 60 plants; including Cattleya, Paphiopedilum, Oncidium, and some carnivorous plants which will be distributed as gifts to our members (one per membership) who have paid their 2024 membership dues. These plants were provided by Larry and Lily Nau from Bergen Water Gardens, our speaker from last month, the purchase organized by Jean Mint, and the temporary care by Jane Trey. Any leftover plants will be available for sale after the party, with additional opportunities to purchase them at our spring auction or in future raffles.

In order to cut down on plastic waste, we recommend bringing a table setting – but table settings will be provided for those who cannot bring their own.

We look forward to celebrating the end of the year at this festive event! See you soon.



Paphiopedilum Danella "Chilton" AM/AOS, AM/RHS  
Photo Courtesy of Luis Matienzo



# Member Info

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

### President

Linda Mittel

### Vice President

Ruth Allen

### Treasurer

Angel Caoile (Interim)

### Secretary

Chris Higgins

### AOS Representative

Polly Dillon

### Members-At-Large

Jeff Hackett

Loi X Tran

Gail Gunsalus

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**Auction Committee** Jane Trey, Jean Mint,  
Jeff Hackett

**IT Specialist** Melissa Bennett

**Librarian** Laurel Shaefer

**Marketing** TBD

**Membership** Anitra Murphy

**Newsletter Editor** Jeff Hackett

**Program Coordinator** Jean Mint

**Social Event** Ruth Allen, Jane Trey

**Social Media** Loi Tran, Renee DePrato,  
Jean Mint

**Show Chair** Sam Hance, Jeff Hackett

**Web Master** Carol Bayles

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### Web Site:

<http://www.southerntierorchids.org>

### Email addresses:

[STOSorchids@gmail.com](mailto:STOSorchids@gmail.com)

[STOSorchids.auction@gmail.com](mailto:STOSorchids.auction@gmail.com)

[STOSorchids.marketing@gmail.com](mailto:STOSorchids.marketing@gmail.com)

[STOSorchids.membership@gmail.com](mailto:STOSorchids.membership@gmail.com)

[STOSorchids.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:STOSorchids.newsletter@gmail.com)

[STOSorchids.shows@gmail.com](mailto:STOSorchids.shows@gmail.com)

### Google Group (Listserv)

[STOSorchidgroup@googlegroups.com](mailto:STOSorchidgroup@googlegroups.com)

### Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/SouthernTierOrchidSocietyNY>

### Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/SouthernTierOrchidSociety/>

## STOS Calendar 2024

Meetings are 2-4 pm (1:30-2 is 'social time')  
at the Vestal United Methodist Church,  
328 Main St. Vestal, NY.  
In 'The Belfry' on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Elevator available.

**Dec 15** Holiday Party 1:30-4:30

**Jan 19** (2025)  
MOTHLY MEETINGS TO RESUME AT A NEW  
VENUE, THE JOHNSON CITY SENIOR  
CENTER.

See next month's newsletter for the 2025 calendar.



*Polystachia pubescens*  
Photo Courtesy of Luis Matienzo

## Neighboring Societies

CNYOS – Central NY Orchid Society (Syracuse)  
GROS – Genesee Region OS (Rochester)  
NFOS – Niagara Frontier OS (Buffalo)  
CPOS – Central Pennsylvania OS (State College)  
Albany Orchid Society (Albany, NY)

# STOS Meeting Minutes

## November 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting Notes

**Location:** Vestal United Methodist Church

**Call to Order:** President Linda Mittel, 2:21 PM. Because of technical issues, Linda decided this meeting would not be recorded.

**Attendees:** ~ 37 members and three guests. No new members were present. No one was present on Zoom due to network problems.

**Nominations:**

Paula Matienzo made a motion to nominate our former president Carol Bayles as a Lifetime Member of STOS in recognition of her years of service. Ben Cabot seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Luis Matienzo thanked all the current and past STOS members who have worked hard to make the organization thrive. He then made a motion to nominate Jane Tey, who was treasurer for fourteen years and helped with auctions and shows, as a Lifetime Member in recognition of her service. Ben Cabot seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

**Reports**

Secretary Chris Higgins did not read the minutes. President Linda Mittel stated that the minutes of the October, 2024, STOS meeting have been published in the November, 2024, STOS Newsletter. Members approved the minutes. Linda expressed her desire to change the STOS meeting structure so that there would be more social time at future meetings.

**Treasurer:** Angel Caoile, Present

Angel reported the STOS club balance. Angel encouraged all members to pay their dues, ideally at the Christmas party on December 15. Members may pay for two years in advance if they wish.

**Executive Board Meeting:**

An Executive Board meeting needs to be scheduled soon. No Executive Board meeting has been set up as of November 24.

**New Business:**

**Holiday Party**

President Linda stated that the STOS club will be hosting our holiday Christmas party on December 15th at the Vestal United Methodist Church in the downstairs kitchen area. Members are asked to bring a dish to pass, and all are welcome to bring their own “green” silverware and plates.

**Newsletter:**

Jeff Hackett asked that images and/or articles for the Newsletter be submitted by December 5. If you miss this deadline, your submissions will be included in the following Newsletter.



General Meeting  
Photo Courtesy of Jeff Hackett

# November 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting Notes cont.,

## Show Information:

President Linda Mittel stated that the STOS 2025 Show will be held at the Johnson City Senior Citizen Center, 30 Brocton Street, Johnson City. STOS members are encouraged to spread the word by promoting the new location and date through word-of-mouth as well as timely marketing and ads. Luis added that in order to get other clubs to contribute to our show, we need to attend their exhibits and connect with them. For example, the Central Pennsylvania Orchid Society in State College, PA, are having their show on January 18-19th. Carol stated that it would be excellent if members of the STOS were there to show support for the CPOS. In addition, the Rochester Orchid Society is holding its show in late March.

Additionally, this year unidentified orchids (NOIDS) will be welcome at the STOS 2025 show. Request

President Linda reminded STOS members to consider volunteering to assist Angel Caoile in the position of treasurer. This requires experience with Microsoft Excel Spreadsheets, record keeping, and finances. If interested, please get in touch with Angel or Linda.

Additional Information:

**Show Table:** Several members brought approximately 18 Orchids.

**Raffle Table:** Colin Dillon sold tickets for \$1.00 apiece.

## Presentation by Larry Nau, Owner of Bergen Water Gardens:

Larry Nau, who with his wife Lily recently toured Thailand, gave a presentation, "Touring Thailand's Orchid Farms and Markets." In addition, the couple brought numerous beautiful and exotic orchids for sale. Larry is not only an expert in orchids but also in carnivorous plants and lotus plants.

Lotus Fest

Larry mentioned that the Lotus Fest is an event worth attending. According to the official webpage for the Bergen Lotus Fest, the event begins on July 25, 2025 and runs through July 27, from 9 AM until 5 PM each day. If members are interested in attending the Bergen Lotus Fest, they can use the following link provided below:

Bergen Water Gardens

7443 Buffalo RD

Churchville, New York, 14428

## Closing:

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:10 PM. Bergen Water Gardens sold plants after the meeting until ~ 5:00pm. (Notes compiled by secretary Chris Higgins.)



Show Table  
Photo Courtesy of Jeff Hackett





# Executive Updates

## Notes from the President

Dear STOS Members, Friends, & Guests,

I am thrilled to be working with you this year as we delve deeper into the captivating world of orchids! With our dedicated new officers, committee members, and new enthusiastic members, we are ready to offer many education opportunities and resources.

Whether you are a seasoned orchid aficionado or just starting your journey, you will find tons of valuable information on cultivating, your orchid collection and connecting with fellow orchid enthusiasts.

I look forward to a fun and informative year together! Please feel free to contact me or any of the officers with any questions at any time.

Warmly, Linda Mittel

## Committee Updates

- Auction :** Plants have been ordered from Bergen Water Gardens by Jean Mint for the Holiday Party this month. They will be picked up in Churchville, NY and be kept by Jane Tray till the party. Jeff Hackett has analyzed several previous auctions to begin planning for the spring auction.
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- IT :** Sorry for the technical difficulties at our previous meeting. It was found that the church had changed the WIFI password without telling us the new password. The new password is known and should not be an issue moving forward.
- 
- Library:** *No Updates At This Time.*
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- Marketing:** Linda Mittel has began planning marketing ideas and plans for the upcoming show, as it will be critical to inform everyone of the venue change and attract more people to the venue. She has spoken to two members of the society to start designing and planning a flyer for the show. ***If anyone has interest in assisting with this committee, please contact [stosorchids.marketing@gmail.com](mailto:stosorchids.marketing@gmail.com) or Linda at the next meeting for more details.***
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- Membership:** Anitra & Melissa have been diligently working to update and consolidate membership records. It is imperative for you to sign in at every meeting you attend so they can keep track of membership and better see how the club is doing. Not all members have opted in to receive emails from us. If you do not receive emails from STOS please reach out to [stosorchids.membership@gmail.com](mailto:stosorchids.membership@gmail.com) or Anitra at the next meeting.
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- Newsletter:** Jeff Hackett has received tons of photos of blooming orchids since November, and is extremely appreciative. Not every flower can be included in every newsletter, but may appear in future ones. If you have flowers that bloom between meetings or if you have articles you would like included in the newsletter, please make submissions to [stosorchids.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:stosorchids.newsletter@gmail.com).
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- Program Coord.:** Jean Mint has been in contact with our next month's speaker, Ray Barkalow of First Rays, LLC. More details will be given in the next newsletter regarding his presentation material.
- 
- Social Event:** Ruth Allen and Jane Trey have vigilantly been planning for the food and drink accommodations for the upcoming Holiday Party and for our 2025 events.
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- Show:** Sam Hance and Jeff Hackett both toured the Johnson City Senior Center venue in November and have started planning show layouts. The show has been registered with the AOS and a vendor contract has been finalized. Vendors will be being invited soon. ***If you would like to see any particular vendor at this show, send suggestions to [stosorchids.show@gmail.com](mailto:stosorchids.show@gmail.com) .***
- 
- Web Master:** *No Updates At This Time.*

# Membership Renewal

## 2025 Membership Renewal

It's that time of the year again! Membership renewals for 2025 are now being taken! To maintain your active status and continue enjoying the benefits of being part of the Southern Tier Orchid Society, please ensure your dues are paid by the deadline. Thank you to those members listed below who have paid ahead of time. If you believe there is an error, please see Angel Caoile at the next meeting to resolve any discrepancies.

### Renewal Options:

- Cash
- Check made out to the Southern Tier Orchid Society with "Membership Dues" written into the memo
- Paypal through the club website

### Renewal Cost: \$20

### Per the STOS bylaws:

- Members with delinquent dues cannot vote in membership decisions.
- If dues remain unpaid after May 1<sup>st</sup>, the membership will be dropped from the rolls, and you will no longer receive newsletters or other mailings until full payment is made.

Don't miss out on another exciting year of orchid events, educational programs, and community fellowship!

### Members Who Have Prepaid

Ruth Allen  
 Carol Bayles  
 Angel Caoile  
 Christine Chin  
 Josh DeMaree  
 Bernice & Brian Magee  
 Ben & Lori Cabot

Luis & Paula Matienzo  
 Peter O'Connell  
 Judith Simpson  
 Joseph Snizek  
 Renee Sparrow  
 John Zygmunt  
 Gail & James Gunsalus

Jeffrey Hackett  
 Jessica Koscelnak  
 LuAnn Meyers  
 Melissa Bennett  
 Susan Szcotka  
 Jane Trey

Your timely payment significantly helps the club and is much appreciated by our membership committee and treasurer.  
 Thank You.



Vanda (Neofenetia) falcata  
 Photo Courtesy of Anitra Murphy

# Outstanding Members

## Lifetime Membership

Per Article III of the Southern Tier Orchid Society Bylaws:

“Lifetime Members are elected by the Society upon nomination at the Annual Meeting. Lifetime Membership is in recognition of outstanding service to the Society. The Lifetime Membership roster will be kept by the Treasurer, and passed down to the succeeding Treasurer upon election. Lifetime members and their household are exempt from paying dues.”

On November 17<sup>th</sup> both Carol Bayles, former President, and Jane Trey, former Treasurer, were recognized for their significant contributions to the society and nominated to be lifetime members. By unanimous vote of the general voting body, both were made lifetime members of STOS. Thank you again Carol and Jane as your contributions have significantly impacted the society for the better.

## Celebrating other Key Members of STOS

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to John Zygmunt for his dedicated service as a past President and Vice President of our society. John’s leadership helped guide our club, and his ongoing generosity continues to enrich our community. His donations of personal plants and supplies for raffles and auctions have been invaluable, bringing joy and excitement to our events. John, your contributions and commitment have truly made you a cornerstone of our club. Thank you for all you do!



Vanda Tang Tang Diamond Pink (Left)  
Photo Courtesy of Polly Dillon



Vanda Somsri Blue Classic (Right)  
Photo Courtesy of Polly Dillon



## Sam Hance

Sam Hance has been a cherished member of STOS since 1999, joining alongside her close friends Jean Mint and Renee Sparrow. Like some others, Sam stepped away from the society for several years to focus on raising her family but returned with the same enthusiasm she brought when she first joined. Her early contributions included writing the STOS newsletter in the 2000s, and her continued support to the show committee remains invaluable to the society.

Sam's orchid collection has flourished over the past 25 years, growing to an impressive 150 plants. She cultivates a wide variety of genera, including *Oncidium*, *Masdevallia*, *Restrepia*, *Bulbophyllum*, and *Psychopsis*, delighting in the diversity of shapes and colors they offer. Her experience and dedication make her a resourceful member for advice on orchid care.



Sam Hance pictured in front of an active volcanic landscape

Beyond orchids, Sam's passions are as diverse and adventurous as her collection. A self-proclaimed lover of natural wonders, she has witnessed volcanic eruptions at Kīlauea and Mauna Loa in Hawaii, as well as Fagradalsfjall in Iceland—not once, but twice! She's explored the geothermal marvels of Yellowstone, trekked the slopes of Mount Rainier and Mount St. Helens, and even traveled to Italy and Dominica to visit active volcanoes. Recently, she returned from Alaska, where she had the unforgettable experience of watching the aurora borealis dance across the night sky. Closer to home, she's felt the rumble of a small earthquake in Pennsylvania and weathered the raw power of tornadoes and hurricanes too.

In her professional life, Sam spent 21 years as an optician before transitioning five years ago to work for her brother in the industrial weighing systems business. When not working or tending to her orchids, she enjoys woodworking, gardening, hiking, and traveling. She and her husband have two grown daughters, Alainah and Sydney, as well as two beloved dogs—a Newfoundland and a Great Dane.

Sam's adventurous spirit and wealth of knowledge bring an inspiring energy to STOS. We are grateful for her contributions and thrilled to have her as part of our orchid community.





# What's New from the AOS

## Winter Orchid Care

### **The Basics – Indoor Winter Preparations**

Because they have less control over the quality and amount of lighting reaching their plants than under-lights growers, windowsill growers face special considerations during the winter months. The day length is shorter in the northern latitudes, so supplemental lighting may be needed for part of the day to maintain a comfortable day-night balance for the plants. At this time of year, the sun's angle is lower on the horizon and may no longer be shaded by trees that have lost their leaves for the winter. A fresh snowfall can also reflect a great deal more light than normal, which may help some plants with blooming.

It's important to note that while ambient chill by a window is tolerated by most orchids, a cold draft is not. Cold moving air is death to most orchids except maybe *Cymbidium* or certain high-altitude *Pleurothallids*. If your home is heated to about 65F-75F, then no preparation is needed. However, for super chilly nights or drafty windows, a heavy curtain between the window and your orchids can act as an insulating barrier to help keep the nighttime temperatures from damaging sensitive tropical plants. Thermopane windows will also help — their two panes of glass separated by an air pocket are good for both orchids and heating bills in the wintertime. Even sheets of bubble wrap covering the glass will help keep warmth in and winter chills out. Never allow the foliage to touch the glass; condensation can freeze on the windowpane and kill your orchid's leaves. If buds start falling off of a *Phalaenopsis* inflorescence the first thing to suspect is a drafty window (second thing is ethylene gas from a nearby heater).

The loss of humidity as a result of forced air heating can take its toll on your orchids. Remember, most orchids grow optimally with 60%+ humidity. If your home is especially dry, and you will know by the way your own skin reacts to winter, provide extra humidity for your orchids. A tried and true method is to set orchid pots on trays of pebbles that are filled with water; just make sure your plant is not sitting in the water. Misting a couple times a day or getting a humidifier pointed at the plants can also help. If your apartment is small, you can run a hot shower with the bathroom door open to raise the humidity of the entire apartment. While it may not be the most efficient use of water, it most certainly will also help flush out your sewage pipes!

### **The Basics – Dormancy and Water, Fertilizer, Air Movement, and the Rest**

Cultural factors to consider in keeping orchids happy through the winter months include less frequent watering and fertilization. It is worth the extra effort to read up on the seasonal needs of the orchids in your collection. This is especially important for the species, and if you can find the ancestry of your hybrid, will benefit them as well. Some orchids enter a period of partial or full dormancy; they will require a rest period at this time of year and could be adversely affected if they do not receive one. As temperatures drop and daylight is reduced, their growth slows down or even stops, depending on the species or hybrid. The quantities of water and fertilizer that were required for spring and summer growth are no longer needed and could negatively affect the plant unless reduced or eliminated accordingly. For example, some *Maxillaria* may refuse to bloom if they are fertilized in the winter, as they will think that summer has never ended.

Cool and wet conditions can accelerate the breakdown of organic growing media (such as pine bark and sphagnum moss) and lead to root rots and plant rots. For most cases, simply reduce the frequency or the volume of water until you start to see the new growth or initiation of buds in spring. For orchids that have a water-based dormancy such as *Catasetums*, in greenhouses, some growers simply stop watering. The humidity in those greenhouses is enough for the plants to stay alive and harden off until spring. However, (and this is where a lot of newbies get it wrong) indoors, you MUST keep watering, just either with lesser volume or frequency of water. Indoors, if you are getting a water-based dormancy right, the pseudobulbs will wrinkle a bit, but the plant won't shrivel to death. If the plant shrivels a lot, just add a little more water to keep it wrinkled until spring, but not so much that it fully plumps back up.

It's a general best practice to stop fertilizing in winter unless an orchid is winter-blooming. A surplus of fertilizer can accumulate in the growing media until the fertilizer salts burn the orchid's root and leaf tips, and actually inhibit rather than enhance growth. Additionally, for fertilizer-based dormancy, like some *Maxillaria* and some *Cattleya*, simply stop fertilizing.

# Winter Orchid Care, cont.

## The Basics – Day Length

Another consideration for growers in northern latitudes is the shorter day length winter brings. Many orchids need 12-14 hours of light every day to flower successfully. Relying on daylight alone during winter months will not provide sufficient light to induce budding, especially for the higher-light-demanding orchids like Cattleya or Vanda. Genera with high light requirements may produce healthy green foliage but without sufficient illumination might never reward their growers with the desired flowers. For indoor and greenhouse growers in the north, supplemental lighting may be necessary for optimal plant health and flowering. Depending on the type of light source chosen, the heat generated by the lamps may help counteract cold temperatures.

There are some orchids that are short-day plants, and will only bloom if given less than 12 hours of daylight. Do your research on what you have to know for sure, and give those conditions as needed.

- Abridged Article Courtesy of the American Orchid Society

## Upcoming AOS Webinars

### NO AOS WEBINARS FOR DECEMBER

#### **Greenhouse Chat January 2025** with Ron McHatton

Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8:30 PM EST

Join Dr. Ron McHatton as he answers your questions about all things orchids. Please send your question and pictures to Sandra Svoboda at [greenhousechat@aos.org](mailto:greenhousechat@aos.org) by December 31st, 2024. Greenhouse Chats are OPEN TO THE PUBLIC BUT REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

#### **Inorganic Potting Media: Never Repot Again** with Harvey Breneisse (Part 1)

Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 PM EST

Harvey reviews the various inorganic media with a focus on semi-hydroponic orchid growing. First of a two-part series.

(AOS Member Only, Registration Required)

See [AOS.org/orchids/webinars](https://AOS.org/orchids/webinars)



*Paphipedilum maudiae* type var. album  
Photo Courtesy of Josh DeMaree

## Preface

Following our exploration of the majestic *Phalaenopsis gigantea* and its long sweeping leaves, this month we turn our attention to a much smaller but equally captivating orchid: *Bulbophyllum maxillare*. Native to the lush rainforests of Malay Archipelago and North Australia, this compact species enchants with its unique flower – having no petals, but three vibrant and rich red sepals with long, delicate yellow-white tendrils. This orchid thrives in the lower canopy on low-lying branches, it enjoys dappled light and high humidity. Join us as we uncover the charm of *Bulbophyllum maxillare*, from its natural habitat to tips for successfully growing this remarkable orchid at home.

## *Bulbophyllum maxillare*

Discovered in 1843 by the renowned botanist John Lindley, *Bulbophyllum maxillare* is a fascinating orchid species that truly embodies the beauty and diversity of the genus. Native to the tropical lowland forests of Peninsular Malaysia, Sumatra, Java, Borneo, Sulawesi, New Guinea, the Philippines, the Solomon Islands, and Northern Australia, this orchid thrives at low elevations typically ranging from 150-1,650 ft but has been observed as high as 4,000 ft. Its natural habitat in the lower rainforest canopy provides the bright but dappled light, high humidity, and constant moisture that is essential to its growth.

Often described as the “Masdevallia of the *Bulbophyllum* world” due to its flower shape and growth habit, *Bulbophyllum maxillare*, features tight internodal spacing and produces dark green to yellowish pseudobulbs measuring 0.6 – 2 inches long and .35 - .50 inches wide. Each pseudobulb supports a single thin, stiff, elliptic-lanceolate leaf that ranges from 3 – 6 inches long and 0.6 – 1.0 inches wide. Its compact growth habit, striking foliage, and exquisite blooms make it an excellent choice for growers seeking a distinctive addition to their collection.



*Bulbophyllum maxillare* 'M&M Orchids'  
AM/AOS (83 points)  
Exhibitor: Matt & Michelle Jaenke  
Photographer: Matthew Nutt  
Date: Oct 12, 2024



*Bulbophyllum maxillare* 'Morright' CCM/AOS (82 points)  
Exhibitor: Jeff Morris | | Photographer: James Osen  
Date: Oct 07, 2011

Continues next page...



## *Bulbophyllum maxillare* cont.,

The flowers of *Bulbophyllum maxillare* are both striking and unique, measuring 1 – 2.5 inches in size. As aforementioned, the flowers of this plant do not have any petals, but instead has one dorsal sepal and two lateral sepals that are richly colored red to purple and are accented by long, delicate yellow-white tendrils. Occasionally, the sepals exhibit a gradient, transitioning from yellow at the edges to red toward the column and labellum – this color form is typically called “fma yellow” or something akin to this. The flowers are further outlined by the same yellow-white hue as the tendrils. These tendrils can be fully open or sometimes can cross themselves making a more closed-appearance. In AOS judging, more open flowers are typically more highly revered than those that exhibit a more cupped-shape. What typically might be revered as a good quality for this genus; *Bulbophyllum maxillare* lacks fragrance ensuring that your grow space is not filled with the less-than-pleasant alternative stench for the genus. This orchid is free-flowering from Spring to Fall which allows the grower to enjoy the flower through much of the year.



Photo Credit: Royal Botanic Garden Kew | Plants of the World Online



Photo Credit: researchgate.net



*Bulbophyllum maxillare*  
Photo Courtesy of Jeff Hackett

## *Bulbophyllum maxillare* cont.,

Cultivating *Bulbophyllum maxillare*, as with any other orchid species, requires attention to its specific needs. This species thrives in hot-growing conditions, preferring temperature between 60°F – 95°F, and benefits from bright-diffused lighting. Maintaining consistent moisture during the growing season is crucial, though occasional hard drying in winter can be beneficial. Hard drying plants occasionally in your care regardless of genus is a good practice to make your collection more resilient to dehydration stress. Unlike some orchids, *Bulbophyllum maxillare* does not require a rest period after blooming or during the winter, High humidity levels of 60-80% with good air circulation are ideal, though the plant can adapt to lower humidity with careful attention to watering, Fertilizing with a balanced formula year-round promoted steady growth, more blooms, and a more robust plant.

Though not commonly used in hybridization, *Bulbophyllum maxillare* stands out for its compact growth, unusual floral structure, and adaptability in cultivation. Whether you're drawn to its striking blooms or its ease of care, this orchid is a rewarding addition for beginner and advanced growers seeking something extraordinary to add to their collection.

- By Jeff Hackett



*Bulbophyllum maxillare* 'Whisper Worth The Wait'  
AM/AOS (84 points)  
Exhibitor: Laura & Wes Newton  
Photographer: Ernest Walters  
Date: Jun 08, 2013



Photo Credit: orchidroots.com | Chee Kin