

# Dendrobium Orchids

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Suitable to Florida

# Dendrobium Orchids Suitable to Florida

*by Ralph Zeblin ❖ Art by Rita Zeblin*

## Dendrobium

- 2nd largest genus in orchids – 1400 species (Bulbophyllum – 1<sup>st</sup>)
- Hard Cane and Soft Cane
- Grows from Sea Level to 12,000 ft.
- Six to eight main sections (some say five only, some say more)
- From Greek meaning “Life on a Tree”
- Grow naturally in China, Japan, Malaysia, India, Phillipines, New Zealand, Australia & but majority are from Papua New Guinea.



# Divisions of Dendrobiums

1. Phalaenanthae



Den. biggibum

2. Spatulata



Den. tangerinum

3. Callista



Den. lindleyi

4. Dendrobium



Den. nobile

5. Formosae



Den. formosum

6. Latouria



Den. spectabile

7. Dendrocoryne



Den. speciosum

8. Pedilonum



Den. goldschmidtianum

# 1. Phalaenantha Section

- Most Common
- Easy to Grow, however 55-60° F min. temps
- Known as hard cane dendrobiums. Along with Spatulata Section
- Temps from 50° – 90° F Humidity 50-60%
- Evergreen
- Have eyes at base of cane & like loose mix (Similar to Cattleya)
- Propagates with Spatulata Section

Den. Enobi Purple  
'Splash' AM/AOS



Den. Baby Pink



Den. Victoria

# Phalaenantha Section



Den. Biggibum  
(Used extensively for Hybrids)  
(Also known as Den. Phalaenopsis)



Den. Affine (White Butterfly)



Den. superbiens



Den. williamsianum



Den. compactum



Den. dicuphum

## 2. Spatulata Section (Antelope types)

Den. canaliculatum



Den. tangerinum



Den. stratiotes



Den. lineale

Less fertilizer & water in winter, but no rest. 60°-90° F

### 3. Callista Section



Den. lindleyi

Den. thyrsoiflorum



Den. farmeri



Den. densiflorum



Den. chrysotoxum

Likes cool weather in winter but not below 45° F and dry. No fertilizer

## 4. Dendrobium Section (Group 1)



Den. nobile



Den. chrysanthum



Den. friedricksianum



Den. wardianum

Spring and Summer - Lots of water & fertilizer when growing. In Winter – more light.

No water or fertilizer and nights can go down to 40° F



# Dendrobium Section (Group 2)

Den. anosmum



Den. parishii



Den. primulinum



Den. fimbriatum



Lots of water & fertilizer when growing.  
But should not go below 55° F & no water in Winter.

## 5. Formosae Section



Den. draconis



Den. formosum



Den. cruentum



Den. sinense

Intermediate to warm min. 40° F max 95° F  
Bright indirect light. Drier in Winter

## 6. Latouria Section

Den. alexandrae



Den. spectabile



Den. johnsoniae



Den. macrophyllum



High light levels. Warm to cool  
High humidity. Slight rest in winter.

## 7. Dendrocoryne Section



Den. Kingianum



Den. speciosum



Den. tetragonum

Heavy fertilizer & water in Summer, less in Winter.  
Temps down to 30° F, and blooms better with Winter chill.

## 8. Pedilonum Section



Den. secundum



Den. smillieae



Den. bracteosum

Heavy water & fertilizer in Summer, cooler and dryer and less water & fertilizer in Winter.

# Other Dendrobiums



Den. anceps



Den. lanifolium



Den. wasselli



Den. amethystoglossum



Den. venustum

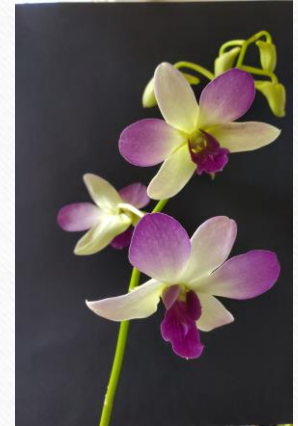


Den. philippinense

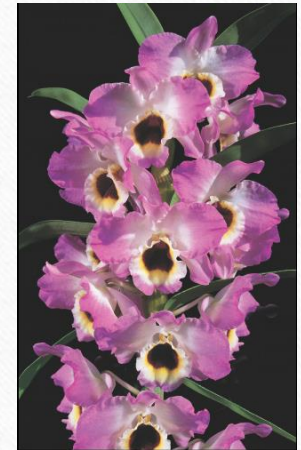
# Culture

## REPOTTING

- Use chunky bark like Orchiata
- Do not disturb roots except for old hollow decayed roots. It's ok to leave some old mix.
- Use a pot “just” big enough and pack in mix very tightly. Make sure plant doesn't move and new eyes rest on top of mix.
- Use clay if possible. Dendrobiums are top heavy. Can use rocks in bottom of pot. Also hanging pot avoids tipping over.
- For gigantic dens. You will have to be creative – milk crates, waste baskets, etc.
- Can be attached to trees.
- Keikis can be repotted
- Don't use copper or copper-based fungicides.



Den. Aridang Blue



Den. Red Senator 'Maxim'

# References

- American Orchid Society ([AOS.org/orchids/culture](http://AOS.org/orchids/culture))
- Orchids.org
- Travaldo.Blogspot.com
- The Orchid Girl – YouTube
- St. Augustine Orchid Society ([Staugorchidsociety.org](http://Staugorchidsociety.org))
- Orchid Culture.com
- Orchid Web



Den Khaido



From Batam Island,  
Kepulauan Riau - Indonesia



Den Section Nobile Seminobile