



New World Orchids
Specializing in miniature orchid species

Masdevallias and Draculas: Not as Scary as You Think

Kristen will talk about Masdevallias and Draculas. This subset of the Pleurothallid Alliance has long been beloved by orchid growers; however, she hears the refrain, “I can’t grow them” way too often. You would be surprised at the success the average grower can have under “normal” growing conditions. She will talk about what makes these two genera so attractive, how to grow them in intermediate to warm conditions, and some great species to try if you are still hesitant

Dr. Kristen Uthus studied both plant and animal ecology and evolution at Virginia Commonwealth University and the Ohio State University. She then taught biology and ecology at several colleges including VCU, OSU, University of Michigan, and Eastern Michigan University. The daughter of a plant fanatic, Kristen has been growing orchids for over 20 years, and in 2014 she fulfilled her dream of making orchids a full-time commitment by purchasing New World Orchids.

Although she enjoys growing many varieties of orchids and other plants, miniatures remain her passion—the weirder the better. New World Orchids specializes in Japanese species such as *Neofinetia falcata*, *Dendrobium moniliforme*, and *Sederia japonica*, but her miniature selection includes many other small species including Pleurothallids, Bulbophyllums, and Angraecums. Although never entirely up to date, you can check out some of NWO’s offerings at www.newworldorchids.com.

Kristen lives in Manchester, MI, about an hour west of Detroit. She is supported in her orchid pursuits by her husband, Dr. Kevin Wehrly, and her two sons, Henry and Gus.

