

Getting Plants Ready for Orchid Quest and Other Shows

By Susan Reed

- It is time to start getting your plants ready for shows especially for Orchid Quest!
- One key is to start staking your spikes as soon as they are long enough to use a support stake. This is important to make sure that the presentation of the flowers is the best and that the spike won't break off.
- Keep the plant in the same orientation to keep the spike growing straight.
- Clean the leaves and cut off any brown leaves or tips of leaves. Lemon juice takes off the white water spots that can form on leaves.
- Check and spray for insects, clean with rubbing alcohol. Nobody wants your bugs.
- If the plant label is large for the plant and won't be easily hidden, make a new smaller tag to keep with the plant when exhibiting it.
- Just before the show, please label all pots with your name and put your name on your plant tag.
- For Orchid Quest please send a listing of all of your plants to Sue Reed (greed@chorus.net).
- The registration is done on computer so I need your list to be sent within your email with the class for your plants' registration.
- Registration requires the complete name of your plant, the parents, if it is a hybrid, and the judging class.
- If trouble with plant registration, please use the resources found at the MidAmerica Orchid Congress (<http://www.midamericanorchids.org/judging/>)



- **Orchid Classification:** will tell you the class(es) for your orchid depending if it is a hybrid or a species.
- **Intergeneric Cross Reference:** will help you identify the genera used to make your plants cross.
- **MAOC Show Schedule:** is the document that lists all classes and is the basis for the Orchid Quest Show Book. But OQ has some minor class omissions.
- Use the Orchid Quest Show book for to find your class. Please read the beginning of the show book for it explains some of the classes with aids to help you decide upon the correct class for your plant.
- Google is a good resource to get information about your plant.
- If you are still totally flummoxed contact me.

- Label all materials that you bring for your plant including the box, pot, etc.
- Remember that we will be working with close to 100 different plants, so please help us ID your plant.
- Make sure that your plant is stable in the pot. If not, use a larger pot for stability and/or use wine corks, etc. If the plant needs to be hung or set up on a pedestal, then please bring what is needed to display your plant properly.
- Make sure your plant is well watered, for we will not be watering the plants in the exhibit. •
- Deliver your plants to the drop off site.
- Pick up you plants after the.
- Good luck with your plants and Thank you for sending your plants. We cannot have a show without an exhibit, so your plants are very important!