

Example of instructions to be sent to members sending plants for shows – Authors: Sue Reed, Lorraine Snyder, Keith Nelson

Getting plants ready for Away Orchid Shows!

It is time to start getting your plants ready for the AOS judged shows.

- Stake 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 optimal 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.
- If the plant label is large and won't be easily hidden, make a new smaller tag to keep with the plant for exhibitions.
- Label all pots with your name and put your name on your plant tag (address labels work great.)
- For the AOS judged show, please send a listing of all your plants to (*Here you list the away show contact person for exhibit set up.*)
- If the registration is or is not done on computer, send your list within your email with the class for your plant's registration with full plant name and parents. (If registration is not computerized and if you have the yellow double copy registration tags, please fill them out for your plants.)
- 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 Mid-America Orchid Congress <http://www.midamericanorchids.org/education>
 - Orchid Classification: will tell you the class(s) for your orchid depending on 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 MidAmerica Orchid Congress Show book to find your class. There are minor differences between the MAOC and the Milwaukee show. 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.
- Label all materials that you bring for your plants. Label which plants go into each box, i.e. Keith Nelson - three Phals. Keith Nelson - one Dendrobium. There are 2, 3 or 4 boxes for one person, plus plants and a lot of packing material. It REALLY helps to know which boxes the plants go back into.
- Remember that we will be working with several different plants and some with the same name, so please help us ID your plant with good labeling.
- Make sure that your plant is stable in the pot. If not use a larger pot for stability. If the plant needs to be hung or set up on a pedestal, then please bring what is needed to display your plant.
- Make sure your plant is well watered, for we will not be watering the plants in the exhibit and the Domes can get warm.
- All plants for the exhibit need to be delivered to the predetermined drop off sites (*which should be listed here if copying this information*).
- Plants need to be picked up at the drop-off location on Monday.

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Good luck with your plants and thank you for sending your plants. We need to support other groups by doing exhibits at their shows.

NOTE: (Drop off/pick up will be at site where you dropped off your plants)