

# PSOS Quarterly

a quarterly supplement to the Prairie State Orchid Society newsletter  
for those with an orchid obsession... because nobody can have just one orchid

JULY 2009



## growing Cymbidiums

### Expert tips from PSOS member Joe Lin

Most Cymbidiums grown today are hybrids. My way of growing standard Cymbidiums in Illinois is as follows:

Temperature should be below 90°F and above 38°F. In order to initiate bud, Cymbidiums needs cold temperatures in the fall. Don't take them in the house too soon. All orchids need air movement, as do Cymbidiums. Cymbidiums need as much light as possible without injuring the leaves. If the leaves are green then you have done good job. During spring, summer and fall, Cymbidiums need a lot of water and food (10-10-10 or flower food). Treat them like garden flowers. But in winter time give them less water and food. It is best to put them in a South facing window and add more lights above them. Cymbidiums produce an extensive root system and may be over potted more readily than other orchids. Bark, dried oak leaves, and fiber combinations can be used for media.

A good source of for learning about Cymbidiums is the Prairie State Orchid Society library:

*Cymbidiums- Your Guide to a Rewarding Pasttime*  
by Graham and Sue Guest

*Growing Orchids Book 1 Cymbidiums and Slippers*  
by J. N. Rentoul

## Fertilizer Application Guide for Cymbidiums the Bryant Theory

month	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
month	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
Liquid low Nitrogen fertiliser	X								X	X	X	X
Liquid high Nitrogen fertiliser		X	X	X	X							
Topdressing pots eg slow release		X			X							

*green is for the Northern hemisphere black is for the Southern hemisphere*

A feeding schedule guide from PSOS library book *Cymbidiums- Your Guide to a Rewarding Pasttime* by Graham and Sue Guest