

SIOS

MARCH, 2011
Volume XXXIV, Issue 3

NEWSLETTER

STATEN ISLAND ORCHID SOCIETY



OFFICERS

Cara Minucci
President 646-299-6888

Frank Ariosta, M.D.
Vice President 732-564-0994

Amy Eli Trautwein
Co-Vice President 347-216-1574

Colman Rutkin
Treasurer 718-816-0682
Carol Cammarano
Assistant Treasurer 718-948-6439

Sharon Jaffee
Secretary 347-484-7518

TRUSTEES

Ron Altman, D.D.S. 908-658-3055
Patrick and Carol Cammarano
718-948-6439
Gerry Cassella 718-698-3718
Dr. Olga Federico 718-987-0255
Michael Corace 718-375-3177
Cara Minucci 646-299-6888
Karen Silverman 718-356-4482
Roy Fox 718-816-8187
David O'Dell 718-966-6174
Amy Eli Trautwein 347-216-1574

NEWSLETTER

Kathleen Ruoti, Editor
718-967-6158
wraprascal@mindspring.com

Next meeting March 15th 7pm

Letter from the President

Greetings, friends!

I can feel Spring coming. Can you?? There are green sprouts coming through the ground, and I can feel the warm weather on it's way. I sure am ready!!

A BIG thanks to **Dick Doran** for being such a trooper last month. Doing our show table AND giving a fabulous talk while injured, was above and beyond. We appreciate it, and hope he is feeling better!

We are in the midst of show season, and **Dave** is busy in the hive getting ready for this next show, Longwood Gardens, during the weekend of the 25th through 27th.

Longwood is a wonderful place to spend a day or 2! Beautiful gardens, MILLIONS of orchids, life-size treehouses. It's sure to be a great time! Please ask at the meeting, if you need any information on directions, the cocktail party, (I believe **Pat** has some info on that), or if you would like to help set up

MARCH SPEAKER

Amy Trautwein will talk on "Windowsill Experiments". She will demonstrate and explain her attempts to keep orchids happy with the minimum of effort (and money), including semi-hydroponics, an Epiweb self-watering system, and tricks with mounted plants.

and/or break down. I am sure we have some eager volunteers.

Remember, if you have plants in bloom, we would love to have them in the display at Longwood! Please let us know at the meeting, and we will make arrangements to get them to **Dave**! Thanks to everyone, and see you all on the 15th!

Cara

ANNOUNCEMENT

SIOS MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE **NOW**

Dues (\$20) can be paid at our February meeting or can be sent to me.
Colman Rutkin
129 Tysen Street
Staten Island, NY 10301

Please make check payable to SIOS..

CONTENTS

Message from the President ...1
Show Table February ...2
Colman's orchids...3
Orchid Art...4
Silva Open House...5
Thrips article...6-7

The SIOS meets on the
3rd Tuesday of each month at
7:00pm
All Saints Episcopal Church,
2329 Victory Blvd., SI, NY 10314

<http://sepos.org/show.htm> LONGWOOD GARDENS ORCHID SHOW

Club members are staying at the
Hilton -- one night, Saturday March 26th
Dance @ night under stars
7pm to 10pm - cost \$59 each
For tickets contact Amy Levengood
1-610-213-4500

SHOW TABLE TALLIES FOR FEBRUARY

WINDOWSILL

Ed & Joan Grabowsky - 30

GREENHOUSE

Dave O'Dell - 70
Colman Rutkin - 30

LIGHTS

Pat Cammarano - 20
Roy & Gertrude Fox - 120



Colman's Orchids



Colman's Vanda



Photos by Sage Reynolds



Laelia purpurata

Pat Cammarano sent me this art work for the newsletter.
What a lovely piece that depicts all the many different orchid species.
To all the fiber, knitting and needlepoint enthusiasts out there....
wouldn't it make a wonderful needlepoint tapestry pillow.





Announcing the second annual

SHORE ORCHID FESTIVAL

Friday, June 10 ~ Sunday, June 12, 2011 • 10:00a.m. ~ 5:00p.m.

Held at Silva Orchids

Guests:

Andy's Orchids	Oakhill Gardens
Brennan Orchids	Orchid Phile
Cal-Orchid	Orchids Limited
Canaima Orchids	Parkside Orchids
Celebrate Orchids	Piping Rock
Creative Hydroponics	Silva Orchids
Fishing Creek Orchids	Stony Brook Orchids
J & L Orchids	Suwada Orchid Nursery
Kelley's Komer Orchid Supplies	Waldor Orchids
Little Brook Orchids	Woodstream Orchids
Main Street Orchids	



Food Vendors On Site

Free orchid workshops on Saturday & Sunday for beginners & experienced growers
Great food on site • Free admission • Free parking • Rain or shine • All activities tented

635 Wayside Road • Neptune, NJ • 732-922-2635 • Easy access from major highways
Visit our web site for more information www.silvaorchids.com

Come for a day or enjoy a "Jersey Shore Weekend"

Continued from: Insect and Arthropod Pest Identification and Management Editor: Ronald Oetting
UGA/CAES/Griffin Campus Handout for Southeast Greenhouse Conference

THRIPS

Description and Biology

There are several species of thrips that can be a problem in greenhouses. However the primary thrips of concern is the western flower thrips, *Frankliniella occidentalis* (Pergande). Western flower thrips (WFT) not only damage plants by direct feeding but also by vectoring Impatiens necrotic spot virus (INSV) and tomato spotted wilt virus (TSWV). Adult WFT are approximately 1 mm long and vary in color from yellow to dark brown. Most adult thrips are females that lay eggs into plant tissue, particularly leaves. Both the larvae and adults are very active and feed on leaves and flowers. The mature larvae drop onto the bench, or growing medium to pupate. The WFT life cycle (egg to adult) is primarily dependent on temperature. In warm greenhouses thrips may develop from egg to adult in 10 to 14 days, and they can be active throughout the year.

There are many species of thrips and correct identification can only be determined by proper slide preparation. One species that is similar to WFT in color and size is *Frankliniella tritici*, the flower thrips, which was most common in the southeast before WFT. Flower thrips can be distinguished from WFT using a dissecting microscope and comparing the two pairs of setae (hairs) on each half of the front edge of the anterior portion of the dorsum (just behind the head). WFT setae are the same length whereas those in *F. tritici* are not equal in length, with the lateral-most setae being the longest.

There are other species that will be encountered during the growing season. One time that is especially noticeable is during the harvest of crops near the greenhouse, especially hay, when the thrips are disturbed and migrate. The result is thousands of thrips coming into the greenhouse during a few days. In general these thrips do not establish and become pests. Other thrips common to greenhouses are: banded greenhouse thrips, greenhouse thrips, tobacco thrips and *Echinothrips americanus* which are all dark brown or black species. The melon thrips, onion thrips, and Florida flower thrips are small light brown to yellow species.

Feeding Damage and Symptoms

Western flower thrips feed on flowers and plant tissue of a wide variety of ornamentals and vegetables. Thrips feed by inserting their mouthparts and removing plant fluids. In addition, their feeding leads to macerating plant cells, resulting in spots on plant leaves or flower petals. Since affected cells are unable to expand, the plant's new growth is distorted as the remainder of the tissue expands. Feeding damage to flowers results in early maturity, bud drop, bud distortion, or flower discoloration. Leaf injury is exhibited by silvery streaking on expanded leaves. Greenish-black fecal material left by thrips feeding may also be evident on leaves. Thrips can vector plant viruses in less than 30 minutes during feeding.

Detection and Sampling

Scout for thrips by trapping winged adults on yellow or blue sticky cards and/or inspecting leaves and flowers for larvae and adults. Place sticky cards throughout the greenhouse, especially in areas where thrips are most likely to enter a greenhouse such as near doors, side vents, and sidewalls. Place one sticky card per 500 ft² of greenhouse space. Additional sticky cards may be needed for plants that are highly susceptible to the viruses. Evaluate thrips feeding on plants by randomly selecting 10 plants per 1,000 ft² of greenhouse space and thoroughly examine these plants for damage, and the presence of adults and larvae. The larvae, which are light yellow in color, are often found in feeding scars. Another method to detect thrips is to tap 3 flowers per plant over a piece of white paper and count the number of thrips on the paper. This information can be used to determine the population dynamics of thrips throughout the growing season.

Management

Sanitation. Remove weeds, old plant debris, and growing medium from within and around the greenhouse. Eliminate old stock plants as these are a source of thrips and viruses. Removing old flowers may reduce the number of WFT adults and eggs. Place flowers into a sealed bag or container.

Exclusion. Screen greenhouse openings such as vents and sidewalls with the appropriate screen size (<0.88 mm) to exclude adult thrips from entering the greenhouse. Airflow may be obstructed with the use of screening containing small pore sizes and as a result the screened surface area must be increased to compensate for this. Check with your extension specialist about proper screen sizing.

Chemical Control. The most effective insecticide for thrips control is spinosad (Conserve). In addition, there are several other insecticides including methiocarb (Mesuro), novaluron (Pedestal) and abamectin (Avid) registered for use against thrips. However, no insecticide will provide complete control of thrips. It is important to detect and start management strategies before thrips populations have a chance to increase to moderate or high levels. During warm weather and when populations are high, application intervals of 3 to 5 days may be needed. Rotate chemical classes of insecticides with different modes of activity to reduce the chances of thrips developing resistance. Insecticides should be applied in rotations using one chemical for 2 or 3 applications (pyrethroids only once) and then switching to another class of insecticide with a different mode of activity. Frequency of application may depend on the season. During winter and early spring, the life cycle is extended compared to spring and summer. This can influence the number of applications needed on a weekly basis.

Biological Control. Several biological agents are available for managing thrips, including predators (i.e. *Neoseiulus* or *Amblyseius* spp., *Orius* spp. and *Hypoaspis miles*), and entomopathogenic fungi (i.e. *Beauveria bassiana*). The key to using biological control against WFT is to release natural enemies early. Releases must be initiated before thrips enter terminal or flower buds. Biological control agents will not control a large existing thrips population.

. ***To be continued....***

Topics to come in future newsletters are:

Fungus, Gnats and Shore Flies, Whiteflies, Mealybugs, Scales, Lepidopterous Larvae, Caterpillars or Worms, Slugs and Snails, Pest Management Strategies for Insects and Mites in Common Greenhouse Production.