## Cattleya

with other types of orchids.

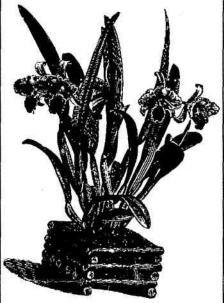
The flowers in cattleyas and their related hybrids come in many colors. Culture varies only slightly among most of these groups; this cultural information is a general guide to "standard" cattleyas are epiphytes, or air-plants. Because they are epiphytic, they have developed water-storage organs, called pseudobulbs, and have large, fleshly roots covered with a spongy, water-teentive velamen. They are accustomed to being dry at the roots between waterings, and therefore should be provided in two ways: in the pot by watering and in the air as humidity. Watering in the pot is altered by many criteria — size and type of pot, temperature, light, etc. Mature cattleyas need to dry out thoroughly before being watered again. Seedlings need slightly more constant moisture. Compare the weight of a dry pot of the cause they are epiphytic, they have developed water-storage organs, called pseudobulbs, and have large, fleshly roots covered with a spongy, water-teentive velamen. They are accustomed to being dry at the roots between waterings, and therefore should be potted in a very porous, free-draining medium.

WATER should be provided in two ways: in the pot by watering and in the pot is at unidity. Watering in the pot is a fertilizer every two weeks, and when not growing, once a month. Fertilizer can also be applied with every watering at 1/4 recommended to provide fruition. Thorough flushing with clear water

Cattleyas are among the most commonly grown orchids, and their culture is 95°F), if humidity, air circulation and often used as the basis for comparison shading are increased.

WATER should be provided in two lated hybrids come in many colors. Culair as humidity. Watering in the pot by watering and in the lated hybrids come in many colors. Culair as humidity. Watering in the pot is ture varies only slightly among most of dictated by many criteria—size and type

medium-gradé potting matérial; seed-



Cattleya

Like most other cultivated orchids, cattleyas are epiphytes, or air-plants. They have developed water-storage organs called pseudobulbs and have large, fleshy roots covered with a spongy, water-retentive velamen. They should be potted in very porous, free-draining media, the most popular being fir bark; other media are shredded treefern fiber, various types of rock and processed coconut fiber. Light—Sufficient light is important for Water - Mature plants must dry out behealthy growth and flower production. tween waterings. Seedlings need more GIVE: Bright light, some sun. In the home, an east, west or shaded-south constant water. HUMIDITY: Need 50% to 80%. In window. In a greenhouse, about 30% to 50% of full sun. Under lights, 4 fluorescent tubes directly over plants.

Temperature—Mature plants need a 10° to 20° difference between night and

GIVE: Nights of 55° to 60°F; days of 70° to 85°F. Cattleyas can tolerate temperatures up to 95° to 100°F if shading, humidity and air circulation are increased. Seedling cattleyas need temperatures 5° to 10° higher than mature plants. ture plants.

home, mist in the morning, and place on trays of pebbles. In greenhouse, wet down floor if conditions are too dry.

Fertilizer - Must be provided on a regular basis because potting media have little.

GIVE: Mature plants in fir bark, 30-10-10 every two weeks. Mature plants in other media, 20-20-20 every two weeks. Seedlings need more constant and more dilute solutions of fertilizer. Plants not in active growth (fallwinter) can be fertilized once a month.

LIGHT is one of the most important factors in growing and blooming cat80% relative humidity. This can be mature pseudobulbs, it generally should provided in the home. Bright light to some sun plants on trays of gravel, partially filled If dividing a plant, 3 to 5 bulbs per must be given to the plants, but no direct sun in the middle of the day. This means an east, shaded-south (as with a sheer curtain) or west window in the home, and 30% to 50% of full sun in a greenhouse (3,000 to 5,000 foot-candles). Leaves should be a medium green color. Leaves should be a medium green color.

TEMPERATURES. Recommended temperatures are 55° to 60°F at night and 70° to 85°F during the day. Seedlings should have night temperatures 5° to 10° and and not seed the plants in the will allow for 2 to 3 years of growth morning only is helpful in dry climates. before crowding the pot. Place a small can and 30% to 5,000 foot-candles). Leaves should be a medium green color.

TEMPERATURES. Recommended temperatures are 55° to 60°F at night should have night temperatures 5° to 10° and 70° to 20° differential between on a regular schedule. In fir bark, a high-higher. A 10° to 20° differential between cially for mature plants. Higher day horus or bloom booster (10-30-20) for
BUILDING TRANSITION This can be mature pseudobulbs, it generally should for humidity diled for in the home by placing the home by placin