



February 2019

THE WICK

Growing Tip from the African Violet Society of America's weekly newsletter

Winter & the White Stuff



Powdery mildew is a common disease of African violets, especially in the winter months. Powdery mildew spores may be removed mechanically (by washing affected leaves or removing affected flowers), or chemically. Spectracide Immunox is one product often recommended for chemical control. Growers find that increasing air movement and carefully controlling temperature changes and humidity reduces outbreaks, but the white stuff may persist.

Harvey Schneider, an engineer and violet grower in Connecticut, explains, "The underlying problem is that the temperature of the leaves lags behind the temperature of the air as the temperature of the room cycles. During the day, the warm air extracts moisture from everything. (During the night, air cools and relative humidity increases.) Then as the air starts to warm, when the leaves are slightly cooler, moisture condenses on the leaves. This provides an excellent condition for mildew to grow. Adding air circulation can minimize that effect by getting the leaves up to air temperature more quickly. It cannot, however, eliminate the problem entirely."

Harvey found a way to win the battle. "The only way to stop mildew is by removing the air borne spores. About two years ago, I started using a small electrostatic air cleaner that also has a UVC lamp to sterilize the air. Last year I saw minimal powdery mildew on my plants, and this year I see none. The growing conditions are, otherwise, the same as I have always had." This unit is suggested for a 100-150 square foot area.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 18, 2019

Program:

"Growing and Hybridizing
Streptocarpus" video with
Dale Martens

Bring Plant #2 and #3 for
grooming

Refreshments: Maggie Garcia
and Jo Cornett

Plant Raffle: Linda Lloyd

March 18, 2019

Program:

"Gesneriad Family"

Bring Plant #1 for grooming

Refreshments: Carolyn
Richardson and Shirley Jones

Plant Raffle: Shirley Jones

April 15, 2019

"Last Minute Show Prep and
Tips" Bring plants for help

Bring Plant #2 for grooming

Refreshments: Vicki Ferguson;

Plant Raffle: Al and Karen
Cenci

April 26-28, 2019

Spring Show and Sale

Eastgate Mall, Batavia, Ohio

(Meetings are usually held at 7
pm the 3rd Monday of the month
at the Springboro Municipal
Building, 320 W. Central Ave.
Springboro, OH 45066 unless
otherwise noted.)

From the President's Keyboard



I hope you're all enjoying the "fool's spring" part of Midwestern winters we've been having the last few weeks. I was bummed to cancel January's meeting, but I knew it wasn't worth the risk for any of us – it was too cold and dangerous for us and also the plants we would've taken outside. Since we missed last month, feel free to bring both plants #2 and #3 to our meeting next week. We'll review all of them and also have a dvd program. Refreshments will be from Maggie and Jo and raffle provided by Linda.

I'm exciting to see you all – it's been too long since I've seen your smiling faces and I miss you! I was shocked and so very thankful to have won one of the shelving raffles at the Christmas party. I was disappointed that I had to miss the party, but I guess there was a silver lining after all!

I have a plea to make, so everyone listen up, please. I have to get the supplies out of my garage ASAP, and it's an immediate and serious have-to. I don't have time to properly manage them anymore. I'm including a picture of the area in my garage where I keep them and also the dimensions: 6 ft long, 3 ft wide, 2-3 ft tall, items can be stacked. There are 3 boxes, 3 bags, 2 containers, domes, trays and the cart. Take a look in your garage, basement, spare room, etc. and see if you have room. If you think you can take over for me, please send me an email. They need to be gone soon!

The 2019 Spring Show Schedule is also attached to this newsletter email. And it is also posted to the www.avsd Dayton.com website. Be sure to be grooming your plants for the spring show! And make sure you bring some plants/leaf pots to sell on the sales table!!

See you all Monday! – Kasey





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Club Sales List

(Note: these affordable prices are just one of the perks for being a dues-paying club member. Some supplies will be on hand at every meeting except perlite and charcoal. If you have special needs/quantities, contact Kasey Angeloni ahead of time at: kasey.i.bryant@gmail.com. Linda Lloyd is storing the potting mix and perlite. If you have special needs/quantities for those, contact Linda at leelloyd@woh.rr.com Thanks!)

Plastic Pots	2.5" and 3" pots	\$.15/each
	4" pots	\$.20/each
	5" pots	\$.25/each
	5" pan pots (white)	\$.30/each
	5" pan pots (green)	\$.45/each
Potting Mix	gallon bag	\$4.00
	(\$6/bag to the public)	
Perlite (chunky)	gallon bag	\$3.00
Charcoal	12 cups	\$2.50
Optimara Fertilizer	(14-12-14) 8 oz.	\$4.00
Marathon	1 cup	\$5.00
Sticky Traps	pkg of 6	\$5.50
Perma-Nest Plant Tray	(22"x11"x2")	\$8.00
Egg Crate	(for wicking in the trays)	\$3.00
Felt	(for wicking in the trays)	\$1.00
Hemostat		\$1.00
Water Bottle		\$5.50
Leaf Support Rings	Small (6" fits 3" pot)	\$.50
	Medium (9" fits 4" pot)	\$.75

**Save
the
date!**



Enchanted Gardens



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Please note: The Enchanted Gardens Catalog is attached to this February newsletter email.

African Violet Show and Sale



Sponsored by the Cincinnati African Violet Society
and the African Violet Society of Dayton

April 27-28, 2019

Eastgate Mall, (I-275 and St. Rt. 32)
4601 Eastgate Blvd., Cincinnati, OH 45245

Saturday, April 27: 10a-9p
Sunday, April 28: 12 noon-6p

Penny at pennypwic@aol.com or 859-240-9057

Notice from AVSA:

Some subscribers are experiencing difficulty reaching the AVSA website. If you have had problems, it may be because your Internet Service Provider is Verizon Wireless. AVSA is working toward a solution. In the meantime, if there is a [Growing Tip](#) article which you are unable to see, please ask the [Growing Tip Editor](#) to email a copy of the specific article (pdf).

2018-2019 African Violet Society of Dayton - www.avsd Dayton.com

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Submit items for the newsletter by 1st of the month to:

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