



# 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 excited 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.avsdayton.com](http://www.avsdayton.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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Save  
the  
date!

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 (\$6/bag to the public)	gallon bag	\$4.00
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



## 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](mailto: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.avsdayton.com](http://www.avsdayton.com)

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