

British Orchid Council

...promoting societies and orchid growing...



**BOC
Covid-19
Congress
2020**

Online event of the year!!

Details of the event and how to enter on the following pages!



I hope you have all had a good week and neither you nor yours have been made ill by the virus to date. So many people seem to be succumbing both on the news and in the local papers, leaving others feeling very isolated.

At BOC we have been trying to find ways to keep everyone together, motivated and interested in their orchids. In other words to build on the community spirit (and friendly rivalry!) that has always existed between orchid growers.

the BOC Covid-19 Congress

<http://bocovid19congress.org.uk/>

This is our latest idea—an online event where you can exhibit your orchids, have them judged and, perhaps, awarded by BOC judges. It is not intended to replace the Southport Congress, taking place next year, but rather to create interest and whet your appetites for the real thing!! There is nothing, after all, quite like getting together and talking and talking about orchids. Often to the despair of long suffering other halves!

To take part you need to photograph your orchids. The details how to do that are in this issue.

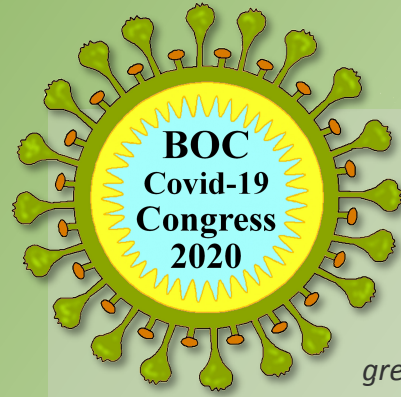
Please DO NOT think that you need special cameras and equipment—all you need is your mobile phone.

We are judging the orchids—not the technical quality of your photographs. However, as I hope I've explained further on, by following a few simple rules you will be able to produce very much better pictures and really make your orchid stand out.

You must pay attention to details, such as dirty pots, untidy stakes, damaged leaves etc. These really show up in a photograph and detract the judges from your beautiful orchid.

Happy photo taking -

Helen



I did ask Chris to make the virus a virulent, pukey green—hope you agree that he's done a good job on the logo!

Contents

How to photograph your orchids

1. Use a plain background
2. Photograph both -
the whole plant including the pot and a single flower or spike
3. Crop the image if needed
4. How to label species and hybrids
5. Labelling your plant with the correct **file name**
6. **Checklist**—*forgotten anything?*
7. Checkout the website:
<http://bocovid19congress.org.uk/>

6. Send your entries and YOUR name by email to:

chairman@british-orchid-council.info

How to photograph your orchids

1. Prepare your plant as if you are taking it to a show

Clean, or cover the pot

Tidy up the top of the plant and the plant itself

Remember to stake carefully if needed

2. Photograph the plant, including the pot, against a plain background

Look what a difference it makes!!

a cable is visible, so crop the image



3. Crop your photos



Here the image has been cropped to remove the cable on the right hand side



label from the pot - you can leave these in place if you want to, but its not essential

cluttered background

compost

- ugh!!

dirty pot



2. Also photograph a single flower.

or several, if they are tiny!

You need to label your plants with the correct file names

You can't enter your orchids in at any Congress for judging if they aren't labelled –this is the same, we just need you to do it a little differently

eg the images of this orchid would be saved as

Specklinia picta 'Gigi' plant.jpg
Specklinia picta 'Gigi' flower.jpg



Here is another example - a white Pleione. The top two pictures show it in the greenhouse with cluttered backgrounds and it is very difficult to see the flowers. I then took it outside and photographed it against the fence - *what a difference!* You can use anything for the background, a piece of card, a piece of cloth or anything handy - such as this fence!!

File name:
Pleione formosana 'Lucy Diamond' plant.jpg

The image was then cropped so that the flowers were central in the picture. A single flower was then photographed as well.

And the final thing was to save the images with the correct name,

Name on label: Pleione formosana 'Lucy Diamond'

It is a species, therefore formosana is in lower case

The variety is 'Lucy Diamond' which is capitalised

You would save the images as follows:

Pleione formosana 'Lucy Diamond' plant.jpg

Pleione formosana 'Lucy Diamond' flower.jpg

File name:
Pleione formosana 'Lucy Diamond' flower.jpg

oops! The **FINAL** thing is to enter the images by emailing them to:
chairman@british-orchid-council.info



Naming and labelling the file names of your orchids

In order for your photographs to be judged they need to have the correct names as file names

Species names eg *Specklinia picta*

The name of the genus is capitalised
eg *Specklinia*

and the name of the species is lower case
eg *picta*



Specklinia picta
'Gigi' flower.jpg



Specklinia picta
'Gigi' plant.jpg

*screen shots
showing how the
example images
were saved*

Hybrid names eg *Pleione Snowflake*

The name of the genus is capitalised
eg *Pleione*

and the hybrid name is capitalised
eg *Snowflake*

Any varietal names are also capitalised
eg 'Gigi' as in *Specklinia picta 'Gigi'*

Stop press!

What about those orchids that you bought without a name because you liked them?

For this event there is a special class for these orchids so that everyone has a chance to enter their orchids.

You simply label their file names as HYBRID
eg *Phalaenopsis hybrid flower.jpg*
Phalaenopsis hybrid plant .jpg
Oncidium hybrid flower.jpg

*Unknown Phalaenopsis
bought from a garden
centre or supermarket*



*Remember to add
either plant or flower
after the file name of
the orchid*

Checklist!!

1. Clean up and present your plants as carefully as you would for any ordinary show
2. Photograph them against a plain background
3. Photograph both the whole plant and a single flower
4. Save the images with the correct file names as jpg images (see above)

Most importantly....

5. ENTER THE CONGRESS!!

email your images to: chairman@british-orchid-council.info