



Southern Tier Orchid Society

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Web Page

<http://www.storchidsociety.com/>

February 2019

NEXT MEETINGS:

February 17, 2:00 First United Methodist Church
****1:00 Executive Board meets prior to the regular meeting! All are welcome!****

March 17, 2:00 First United Methodist Church

IN THIS ISSUE

Don't miss our February meeting! The Executive Board will meet at 1:00, followed by our regular meeting at 2:00. Geof Gould will be our special guest speaker!

Meeting NOTES

****Note:** In the event of a weather emergency, please check your email the morning of the party! If nothing is received from STOS, the party is on. Likewise, those who receive the newsletter by regular mail will receive a call from one of us. If any questions, members may also call one of the Board Members.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Contributions, including pictures, to the STOS newsletter from members are welcomed. Contributions must be submitted by the 5th day of each month to the editor.

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likely to occur when excess moisture stays on leaves and flowers, and when soil has poor drainage. Cultural changes and even a site transfer can minimize disease as can good sanitation procedures.



Fungal Diseases of Orchids

Black rot is a fungal disease that forms when there is standing water on the orchid. The fungal spores must swim through water and, once ready, will sprout mycelium and begin fruiting. Dark black spots form on foliage and spread quickly through all parts of the plant if left unchecked. Avoid splashing water among your plants and cut out any affected areas with a sterile knife.

Root, rhizome and pseudobulb rots are prevalent when potting soil is not sterile and there is excess water. This disease is very contagious and is primarily a root disease, but symptoms may be above the ground. Treating orchid diseases of the roots requires removal of the plant from its medium and using a sterile knife to cut off infected material. Then use a fungicide to drench the roots and clean the growing area with a 10% bleach solution. If enough roots survived, the plant may regain its health.

Petal blight and southern blight, or collar rot, are most prevalent when weather is warm and humidity is high. Poor air circulation and good sanitation can help prevent these diseases. Southern blight causes rapid collapse and rotting of roots, pseudobulb and leaves. Eventually, the disease will

