

It Was Phal-tastic!!

The International Phalaenopsis Alliance blew into Voorheesville with three speakers and lots of great goodies. For the more than 50 people who attended the meeting, it was a chance to learn lots of great information and ask important questions.



Tom Mirenda, a regular columnist in American Orchid Society's magazine and Director of the Smithsonian orchid collection, led off the talks with a fact filled presentation about "Phals In Situ" (in their native habitats). He showed how varied that might be as he took us around Southeast Asia examining different plants and habitats.

He reminded all of us that we grow our plants in very artificial manners – in pots – not the way they would like to be



grown. But we have been doing it long enough that we are actually starting to create hybrids that will thrive in this system!

Many orchids in nature live in a monsoonal climate where they experience both temperature variation and a dry season. Though some dry seasons may only be days while others may be months. It is important to know some of that info.

Another point he discussed was the different cultural climates some Phalaenopsis experience. Indonesia and Malaysia are rain-ier, India is drier, and the phals that grow in the Himalayas experience more daily cold temperatures. Phal. wilsonii will actually experience frost for 1-2 hours of the day for part of the year!

Carri Raven-Riemann of orchidPhile in CT gave her talk on the current breeding programs in Taiwan and what was seen at the big shows. There were lots of spots, stripes, bright colors and big lips!



Norman Fang of Norman's Orchids

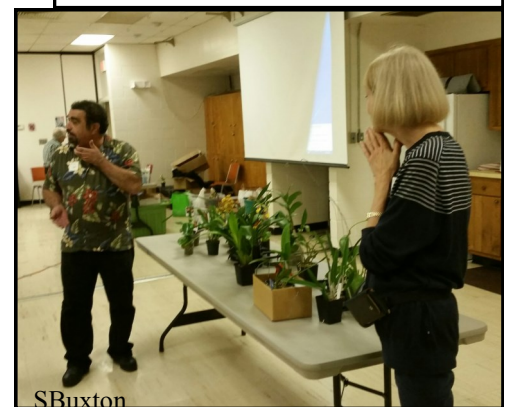
in CA gave a demonstration on growing in moss. This enabled participants to ask questions and gain lots of info they can take back and put into use. A rather shocking claim was in some cases the orchids would only need to be watered once/month while in moss! Wow!

The day certainly brought together growers and newbies from many different places (Long Island to Montreal) so there was lots of discussion about plants, orchids and life!

We hope everyone had a great time!

By Sandy Buxton II

Tom and Carri ran an auction of great plants midday.



October 2015

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Upcoming Meetings

Oct 3—Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids, California

Nov 7—Auction!! Come and bid on great plants!

December 5—Holiday event at Library

January 16, 2016—Annual Luncheon at Wolfert's Roost at noon

February 6, 2016—Hands-on Mounting Demo

March 5, 2016—TBA

April 2, 2016—TBA

Newsletter If you have something you think might be of interest to the group (article, photo, question), please e-mail it to buxton-sandy@gmail.com or bring it to a meeting.

Upcoming Events in the Northeast

Oct 2 – 4, 2015 Susquehanna Orchid Society Show "The Art of the Orchid" at Ware Center of Millersville University, 42 N. Prince Street, Lancaster, PA. Contact: Jay Holcomb & Denise Conklin at 717-252-6092 or jayh530@comcast.net

Oct 16 – 18, 2015 Connecticut Orchid Society Show "Orchid Harvest 2015" at Van Welgen's Garden Center, 51 Valley Road, North Branford, CT. Contact: Cheryl Mizak 203-264-6096 or cmizak@alcher.com

Sat, October 17, 2015, Mid-Hudson Orchid Society Fall 2015 Orchid Show and Sale from 11am – 3pm at Union Presbyterian Church, 44 Balmville Rd, Newburgh, NY. Contact: Ruth Natras 845-343-2901

Oct 17 – 18, 2015 Eastern Canada Orchid Society "Orchidfete 2015" at CEGEP André Laurendeau, 1111 Rue Lapierre, Lasalle, QC, Canada. Contact: Brian Dunbar 514-684-3904 or bcd@videotron.qc.ca

Nov 6 – 8, 2015 Massachusetts Orchid Society Show at Mahony's Garden Center, 242 Cambridge St., Winchester, MA. Contact: Joanna Eckstrom 603-654-5070 or show@massorchid.org

Jan 15 – 17, 2016 North Jersey Orchid Society Show and Sale at Douglass Student Center at Rutgers University, 100 George St, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact: Richard Ho 973-857-7992 or rho144@hotmail.com

Feb 20 – 21, 2016 Amherst Orchid Society Show at Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School, 80 Locust St. (Rt. 9), Northampton, MA. Contact: Marc D. Gray 802-348-7926 or bulbophyllum@myfairpoint.net

Apr 9 – 10, 2016 Genesee Region Orchid Society's Annual Orchid Show and Sale at Rochester Meuseum & Science Center, Eisenhart Auditorium, 657 East Avenue, Rochester, NY. Contact: Carol Butcher 585-742-3403 or jbutche2@outlook.com

GROS—Greater Rochester Orchid Soc.
STOS—Southern Tier OS

CTOS—Connecticut OS
MHOS—Mid-Hudson OS

MAKING IT WORK FOR NENYOS OFFICERS FOR 2015

Donna Wardlaw	Co-President
Janet Vinyard	Co-President & Treasurer
Deb Lambeth	Secretary
Sandy Buxton	Director
Mark Conley	Director
Alex Shepherd	Website
Stan Lee	Past President
Sandy Buxton	AOS Rep
Gillen O'Brien	Name Tags
Joan Gardner	Refreshments
Bob Odess	Raffle
	Greeter

NENYOS Contact:
nenyosorchids@gmail.com
Sandy Buxton Newsletter Ed.

Beginner Series Class—2015-2016

And here's the list of upcoming beginner talks:

Beginner Talks

Sept	Let there be light (growing under lights)
Oct	Leaves
Nov	Auction!
Dec	Orchid Databases
Feb	Winner, winner! (orchid judging)
Mar	An orchid genus we haven't talked about



Beginner Grower lectures are generally held before regular meetings at about 1:30 p.m. Arriving for a meeting early allows participants to check out the Show Table, have a snack and look at the Sale Table!! As well as find a chair with a good view and ask questions of the other members.

Much of our learning happens by gaining information from our peers!

October Speaker is Offering Pre-Order Discount

Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids is coming to speak once again to NENYOS and he is offering a pre-order discount of 10% on plants ordered before the meeting. Visit www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com and look at the many different types of plants he has available. He has posted some new goodies on his website in several places. Make sure you order via web or call and place the order.

Fred's plants are vigorous and healthy, often he has bred for exciting colors and shapes. Just poking around his material is fun and rewarding. Don't forget he also has Sarcophilus but you may have to look hard to find them.

This is a double discount since plants there will also be no shipping charges since he will bring the plants to the meeting!

Catasetinae Plant Culture Cycnoches, Catasetums, Mormodes, and Clowesia By Fred Clarke, SVO

The cultural information below is a generalization and will apply in most situations; however each grower and growing environment is different. I encourage you to make adjustments based on your experience and growing conditions.

Catasetinae have a distinctive growth and rest period (dormancy). For best plant growth it is important to understand and respect these growth phases. When the plants are in active growth maintain constant root zone moisture and fertilize regularly. This is essential to optimizing the development of new growth. When the plants are dormant little or no water is needed as the pseudobulbs store enough moisture and nutrients to survive the dormancy.

Catasetinae plant culture is not difficult. All it takes is an understanding of the seasonal growth patterns. The plants vegetative state signals to the grower their changing needs. Interpret the signals and make the appropriate cultural adjustments. Here is what to look for:

Early spring:

Catasetinae begin their new growth in early spring. However, watering should wait until the new growth has well developed new roots. This means you should let the new roots grow to an approximate length of 3-5" before you begin watering. Let me emphasize this point. Wait to water until the new roots are well developed. The waiting to water is not easy, my natural instinct is to begin watering when I see new growth, but I have learned through trial and error that it is better to wait to water than start watering too soon. I also believe that Catasetinae roots deteriorate during dormancy and in the following year they are not as effective at taking up moisture and nutrients. This makes the new roots vital in the plants health. This reinforces the message about not watering too early.

Continued on Page 7

VENDORS WHO HELPED WITH THE 2014 AUCTION & Activities

Bill Doran, Co Flower wholesalers
45 Industrial Park Rd, Albany, NY
12206 (518)-465-5285
www.billdoran.com

Island Sun Orchids –
Karen Kimmerle; PO Box 909,
Keaau, HI

Lehua Orchids
Mountain View, HI
808-968-8898
www.lehuaorchids.com

Piping Rock Orchids
2270 Cook Rd
Galway, NY 12074
518-882-9002
www.pipingrockorchids.com

Sunset Valley Orchids
Fred Clarke, 1255 Navel Place
Vista, CA 92081 (760) 639-6255
www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com

The Orchid Works
Rayna@theorchidworks.com
P.O. 278 Hakalau, HI 96710
wholesale and retail lists online

Walter Scheeren
44-3265 Kalopa Mauka Rd
Honokaa, HI 96727
808-775-1185
WFScheeren@juno.com

Come and Visit a NENYOS meeting!!

One of the wonderful things about our NENYOS organization is we encourage anyone interested in orchids to come and visit our meetings.

You don't need to be a member to listen to the speaker or ask questions.

So, come and visit. Bring a friend. The more, the merrier as we all learn and enjoy the wonders of growing orchids.

A Few Thoughts....

As we get ready to finish a warm and light filled summer here in the northeast, we think about issues that can plague our plants during the doldrums and short dark days that are rapidly approaching.

From Extension.org—Asked July 6, 2014, 1:09 PM EDT

Q: Do energy efficient window (low-e) have an effect on plants? If so, how much? We are planning a sun room and will keep our tropicals in it for the winter. I have read several articles that say that there is enough visible light for plants. Any thoughts? Thanks, Mary

A: Hi Mary,

You brought up some good questions.

The light that plants use for photosynthesis is in the visible spectrum which has wavelengths between 380 and 720 nanometers. Chlorophyll, the main plant pigment in photosynthesis, best absorbs violet, blue and red light as shown in the figure.

Low emissivity (low-e) windows have coatings that reduce the amount of UV light that passes into your home. The advantage of low-e windows is that you can reduce the amount of light (and heat) coming through the windows without reducing visible light and making your home darker inside. There are other window coatings that reflect visible light as well, but you do not have to

worry about less light for your plants with low-e coatings.

Visible Transmittance (VT) ratings are used to measure the amount of visible light that passes through an object on a scale from 0-1. Windows with low VT ratings allow less visible light through which could, in turn, reduce plant growth. Compare the VT ratings of the different windows that you are considering.

Assuming the sun room is warm enough you should be able to keep your tropical plants in there over winter. However, because winter sunlight is not as intense as in the summer, you will not have as much growth as during the summer time.

See the link for more detailed information on window ratings.

<http://www.nfrc.org/windowratings/Energy-ratings.html>

<http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/energy-performance-ratings-windows-doors-and-skylights>

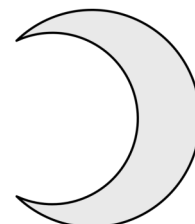
According to the National Fenestration Rating Council, the organization that does the labeling, the rating is the proportion of light that is transmitted through the entire window area (including the frame) to light transmitted without the window there. Zero would be no light and 1 would be as much as with no window there. A window with more, smaller panes would have a lower rating than one with larger panes since light only comes through the glass.

More important than the window rating is the orientation of the room and the number of windows. Plants vary in their sun requirements, so there is no hard and fast rule for how much light is needed. If you want to maintain the plants' growth then natural light is typically sufficient. If you want your plants to produce a lot of growth or fruit during the winter you will likely need to use grow lights to supplement sunlight.

Orienting your growing area to the east will reduce sunlight in the summer, but you will also not get as much light for your plants in the winter. Keep in mind that our winter sun rises in the south east. I have included an online tool calculates the sun's position based on location, date and time. If you have not already, it would be wise to consult with an architect knowledgeable in sun rooms or passive solar systems to optimize your design.

Helpful Resource:

<http://www.suncalc.net> - input your address, the time of year you want to check the sun position and this app gives you lots of information in order to locate optimal positioning. Not to mention, it is cool to see the difference of dawn, sunrise, solar noon, sunset and dusk!



New AOS Awards Page Captures the Brilliant Imagery of Orchids



Van. Azure 'Blue Eyes' AM/AOS, Exhib: Antonio Romani

For more than 90 years the AOS has documented the best-of-the-best of the world's most popular flower through its premier judging system. Each awarded orchid is meticulously described, measured and photographed. The AOS is pleased to announce that these awards and the stunning photographs that accompany them—previously accessible by AOS members only—are now open to the public at large thanks to a newly designed awards page on the Society's website.

"AOS awards are a recognized measure of quality the world over and coveted by hobbyists and commercial growers alike," explained Frank Smith, president of the AOS. "As the orchid's popularity has grown, demand for accurate information about the flower has increased. And nowhere is their more precise information than in the AOS' vast award repository. People will love the award photographs, not only for their beauty but from what they can learn from them. This is a great way to advance their knowledge and appreciation of orchids." Six things you will absolutely love about the new awards page...

It's free! Gaining access to orchid awards previously required a subscription to the AOS' *Orchids Plus* award registry platform.

You don't have to be an AOS member. These breathtakingly beautiful photographs haven't been available to non-paying visitors until now.

The page shows the 30 most recent orchid awards, including its name, parentage, description, award, score and photograph. This information can help make you a better orchid grower.

Clicking on any photo in the page opens up a larger photo with a gallery feature, allowing you to click through all of the large photos for the latest awards.

The page also includes a social sharing function to allow you to share the page with your friends via your favorite social media or bookmarking site, as well as by email.

You can start exploring now – [click here!](#)

Call for Nominations: Board of Trustees of the American Orchid Society

We are seeking nominations for members of the Board of Trustees of the American Orchid Society. Members may nominate any member in good standing, including themselves. All nominations will be evaluated by the Nominating Committee and a slate will be mailed, in accordance with the by-laws, prior to the election at the Members' Meeting in the spring of 2015. The following competencies have been determined by the Board and Trustees and will be used in the evaluation:

All nominees shall be:

- A member in good standing,
- Exhibit integrity and ethical behavior,
- Process strong interpersonal and communications skills
- Have board experience with a non-profit organization

Expertise in the following is desirable and will weigh heavily in the evaluation:

- Finance, business, and/or investment strategies
- Non-profit governance
- Development/fund raising
- Legal background
- Strategic planning and implementation
- Marketing

Responsibilities:

- Attend monthly conference-call type meetings.
- Attend two face-to-face meetings annually (trustees must pay own travel expenses.).
- Trustees receive no compensation for their services.
- Financially support the organization in a manner commensurate with one's ability, while seeking additional financial support elsewhere.
- Advocate on behalf of the organization and be ambassadors to the orchid community.

Nominations should be submitted in writing by 10/31/2015 by e-mail to nominating_committee@aos.org or to the — American Orchid Society at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Rd., Coral Gables, FL 33156 and must include biographical information as well as a statement of the nominee's qualifications.

ORCHID AUCTION, NOV. 7, 2015

SET-UP 12:30 PREVIEW 1:00

SIGN - UP SHEET—will be available on 10/3/2015

We did a fabulous job last year. Our regular helpers are gems. Please join us for the fun, and camaraderie. Multiple jobs can be assigned to the same person....Feel free! Most tasks are claimed during October's meeting. Please review the following and let me know about the jobs still up for grabs. Contact Janet rolandvinyard@gmail.com or 518-673-3212

PUBLICITY - Sandy - email, plant societies, Janet - printed news & on line events pages.

Sandy Buxton generally uses her master lists for garden societies, regional orchid societies and publications. Janet Vinyard hits the area newspapers with a community event announcement. Please look for the notice in Albany Times, Schenectady Gazette, Saratogian, Metroland, Leader Herald, Amsterdam, Courier Standard Enterprise (west of Amsterdam) and several pennysaver/shopper flyers. We need help with radio and TV announcements.

PLANT SITTERS - Stan, Fern, Janet, Wake, Jane.

We use generally 3-4 people to help unpack at Stan's. It's a long afternoon as we try to put the first 10 in auction order and get a few ahead to make life easier for Christina, our auctioneer and Alex, who pulls photos and info up on the internet to show during the auction.

PLANT STAGING/SET UP - Stan, Wake, Donna Wardlaw

At 12:30 or as early as we can get into the Stedman room, plant stagers set up the first 10 and organize the remaining plants in numerical LIST order, not nec auction order. Plants should already have a number on them, position so number is visible. This way once folks have the list sent via email, they can quickly find the orchid on the tables to review condition and look for buds! Multiples of the same plant will be set up together and auctioned at the same time.

PLANT RUNNERS, Stan, Gill, & **TAB RUNNER**_____

2 folks alternatively select plants for auction, an-

nounce the plant number to the tabulators at the front table and show Alex and Christina. The third runner brings bid slips back to the treasurer.

DOOR MONITORS - _____,

Affectionately called **BOUNCERS**, 2 persons hand out auction lists, remind folks door open only at 1pm. They have a list of auction crew and will get food items onto the refreshments table. The farthest door will be shut so that both can channel the mob through the back door to sign in and collect bidding plate.

AUCTIONEER - Christina Anderson

Describes the plant and adds cultural/value notes, encouraging folks to part with their hard earned dollars for a good cause.

VISUAL CO-ORDINATOR - Alex

Uses computer program with photos of non blooming plants along with cultural tips.

TABULATION - Donna, Deb, Jane

3 persons are needed at the front table to keep notes on plants, bid, and bidder. Slips are written up and taken to the back. The extra person is there to cover any person wanting to bid.

SPOTTERS - Wake, _____

Assist auctioneer in noticing hands/plates, create excitement amongst the shy and uninitiated.

DONATED ITEMS CHIEF - _____

Assign a number to last minute donated items and get information to Auctioneer, Plant Stagers and Visual Co-ordinator. Inspect plants for condition.

CLEAN-UP CREW -

1._____.2._____,
3._____

Self explanatory. Do whatever it takes to return room to normal. Many folks just pitch in at the end.

THANKS TO ALL!!!

Continued from Page 3

Mid-Season:

Once the new roots are sufficiently developed, this is the period where the plants are rapidly developing their new pseudobulbs. There is a surprising amount of growth that occurs in these 3-4 months, often the plants will double their size. Due to this, the plants require constant moisture and regular fertilization. In most cases, irrigation will be need 2 or 3 times a week. A balanced fertilizer at full strength is suitable for this rapid growth. Light levels at or above those suggested for *Cattleya* will help insure strong good growth and flowering. This is the time when the fruits of your labor will begin to pay off as the flowering season is in underway.

Late Season:

Sometime after flowering, in the late autumn the plants will begin to enter the dormancy phase. Understanding the signals of the onset of dormancy and the factors triggering it are important is good plant culture. The plant first signals are the yellowing and browning off of the leaves, at this time stop fertilizing and reduce watering by ½ and when most leaves are yellow/brown and have dropped off cease watering altogether. The general rule to follow is: by the 15 th of November stop fertilization and reduce watering by ½. Most leaves should have yellowed or fallen off by the 1 st of January, however, if the plants still have leaves all irrigation should be stopped at this time.

The onset of dormancy is caused by several factors, the maturity of the pseudobulb, shorter day length, cooler day/night temperatures and a reduction of root zone moisture. In most of the country dormancy occurs naturally however when the plants are cultivated in warm growing areas such as in South Texas, Florida, Hawaii, or in the home or under lights sometimes dormancy needs to be encouraged. I have found that stopping watering in early January regardless of the number of green leaves will trigger the dormancy.

Note: Watering during dormancy should only be done if the plant shrivels severely. Usually a single irrigation is sufficient to restore the bulbs.

Here's a summary:

- As the new growth develops wait to irrigate until the new roots are well developed and are 3 to 5" long. (don't be in a hurry to water, it is better to wait)
- Irrigate and fertilize frequently while the plants are in active growth.
- Stop fertilization and reduce irrigation by ½ around by mid November.
- Cease watering by the 1st of January.

Light levels: *Catasetinae* like light levels comparable to *Cattleyas* at about 2500-4000 foot candles (fc) However, the plants are widely adaptable and do well with light levels as low as 1500 fc and as high as 5000 fc. For opti-

mal growth I suggest a Southern exposure or a location where a the plants will receive plenty of bright, filtered light.

Potting mix: For mature plants I have been using a 3/1 of mix of fine 'Kiwi Bark' and medium Perlite. For seedlings up to a 3" pot size I like to use New Zealand sphagnum moss with the bottom 1/3 of the pot filled with Styrofoam peanuts. However, this genus is not too particular in what it is potted in and any well drained media will work well.

Containers: I prefer to grow in plastic pots, however clay pots, baskets, and cork slabs will all work. *Catasetinae* don't like to be over potted, select a pot size that will allow for 2-3 years of growth.

Fertilizer: When in active growth, regularly use one tea-spoon of your favorite fertilizer per gallon of water.

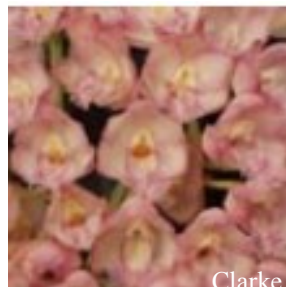
Air movement: *Catasetinae* enjoy abundant air movement, if you are growing in a green house use air circulating fans. Also, hanging the plants allows for maximum air movement around them and often they do best hanging.

Repotting and Dividing: Is done as the new growth is just starting to develop and before the new roots start to show. (remember no watering until the roots are well established, 3-5" long). Unlike most orchid plants *Catasetinae* do well when divided in to 2 bulb pieces. Divisions are made by cutting with a sterile tool or by pulling the bulbs apart. I try to keep the size of my plants between 2 and 5 bulbs.

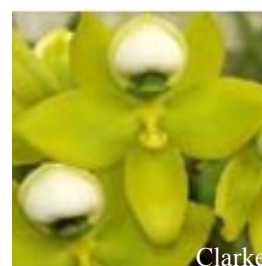
Insect pests: *Catasetinae* are generally pest free, however spider mites are attracted to the soft leaves of these plants. Spider mites are quite small, they live and feed on the undersides of the leaves. Take care in checking for them as the plants are leaning out and control them with a recommended miteicide from your garden center. Although the leaves will drop off during dormancy this is not an excuse to not treat for them.

Please feel free to contact me on any question regarding the growing of this genus. Once the basics are understood they are very rewarding.

fred.clarke@worldnet.att.net



Cl. Rebecca Northern
'Pink Grapefruit'



Cyc warscewiczii 'SVO'



North Eastern New York Orchid Society

NENYOS c/o S. Lee, 130 Johnson Road, Scotia, NY 12302 www.nenyos.com

NEXT MEETING

October 3, 2015

1:30 Beginner talk

2:00 p.m. Show Table,

Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids—Catasetums, Sarcophilus and Other Wonders

After presentation—Questions and Raffle

The meeting is at the William K. Sanford Library, 629 Albany Shaker Road, Colonie (Loudonville, 12211)

(Times are approximate.)

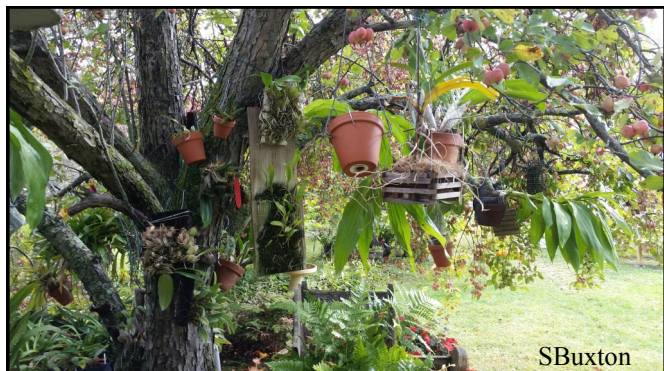
Outside Living for Orchids

Wake Gardner has been growing orchids outside for many years. He has always talked about the crab trees in which he suspends hanging pots and arrays groups under the trees in wagons and on pot stands. The trees provide dappled sunlight to make it too the orchids while giving them the opportunity to breathe outside.



SBuxton

He does admit that some of his bloomers he will move back into a covered space when it is going to pour tons of rain (not much of a problem this summer until quite recently).



SBuxton

As we all know from watching his display plants at the Show Table, Wake has got a system that gets his plants to respond. Aside from the crabapple injuries suffered due to falling fruit, it really looks like one to investigate.

By Sandy Buxton II