



Woolf Orchid Culture

Sarcochilus Culture at Woolf Orchidculture

by John Woolf

Most of the species grow well in cultivation especially if they are artificially propagated from outcrossings. Artificially propagated seedlings of *S. weinthalii*, *S. australis* and *S. dilatatus* are much easier to grow than the jungle collected plants. Attention must be paid to their particular habitats in the wild so you can find the best area in your orchid house for them. Most require heavy shade a moist buoyant atmosphere regular fertilising and rain water. Most town water contains too many salts and additives such as chlorine to suit *Sarcochilus*.

Hybrids

All of the hybrids including the intergenerics are easy to grow in cultivation. All will grow in pots with the correct sized bark and in the correct position in your bush house although those made with the epiphytic species will grow well on mounts.

Pots

Clay or plastic depending on your watering habits

Mounts

Callistemon cork, weathered iron, bark etc.

Potting Medium

We use only Debco Professional Orchid Bark. You can mix gravel styrene or perlite with it if you wish.

Water

Must be given every day or twice in the hot summer months and once a fortnight during cold weather.

Fertiliser

Regularly if liquid feeding – twice a week. We use Growforce BM7 - Lorraine uses sheep manure.

Air Movement

Sarcos must have good air movement at all times

Light

Heavy shade, 70 - 80%

Pests

Scale and mealy bug are problems with Sarcos. Regular checks must be carried out.

Disease

If your culture is right you should have few problems. Watering on hot days can result in damage to the crown of the plants