



NEW GARDEN
LANDSCAPING & NURSERY

newgarden.com
email:info@newgarden.co

New Garden Village
5572 Garden Village Way
Greensboro, NC 27410
phone: 336-665-0291

New Garden Gazebo
3811 Lawndale Dr.
Greensboro, NC 27455
phone: 336-288-8893

Growing Orchids-Cattleyas

These are some of the most commonly grown orchids, and their culture is often used as a basis for comparison with other types of orchids. Like most other cultivated orchids, cattleyas are epiphytic, or air plants. Because of this, they have developed water storage organs, called pseudobulbs, and they have large, fleshy roots covered with a spongy water-retentive velamen. Because they are accustomed to being dry at the roots between waterings, they like to be potted in very porous, free-draining material like bark.

Cattleyas like temperatures between 70° and 86° during the day, with a drop to 55° to 60° at night. They can tolerate some direct sun as long as it is not during the mid-day hours.

Mature cattleyas like to dry out completely between waterings, but they prefer their surrounding humidity to be high. If you're in doubt about whether to water your orchid, wait a day or two. Avoid cold water (below 50°) and avoid softened water. Both will harm the plants. Remember to keep your cattleyas in pebble trays — they like humidity around 50% to 80% — but keep the air circulating around the plants so that fungal or bacterial diseases don't have a chance to get started.

In active growth periods, your cattleyas will appreciate a high-nitrogen fertilizer (30-10-10) every two weeks if they are planted in fir bark. During their resting season, they only need fertilizing once a month. We also recommend that you thoroughly flush the potting mediums with clear water every month to prevent a buildup of fertilizer salts.

See also our [Growing Orchids](#) Info sheet.

If you're in doubt about whether to water your orchid, wait a day or two.

