

SOS EXECUTIVE

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COC REPRESENTATIVE:

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VISITING SPEAKERS:

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WEBMASTER:

Jennifer Burgess

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ORCHID SOCIETY
Box 411
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WEB ADDRESS

WWW.SASKORCHIDS.COM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDITOR'S NOTE

THE NEWSLETTER WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ELECTRONICALLY TO ALL MEMBERS FOR WHOM WE HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS. IF YOU WISH TO SWITCH FROM PAPER TO ELECTRONIC DELIVERY, NOTIFY ME AT (ROBERT.LUCAS@USASK.CA). EMAIL ME IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER BY THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.

APRIL MEETING

THE APRIL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 27TH AT DUTCH GROWERS, COMMENCING AT 1:30 P.M.

PLANT ORDERS

THE ORCHID INN ORDER WILL BE SHIPPED IN THE WEEK OF APRIL 21ST. IF YOU THINK YOU WILL BE UNAVAILABLE TO ACCEPT DELIVERY, PLEASE ARRANGE FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO PICK UP YOUR ORDER AND NOTIFY CHERYL OF YOUR ARRANGEMENTS.

GARDENSCAPE

BY ALL ACCOUNTS GARDENSCAPE WAS A VERY SUCCESSFUL SHOW FOR THE SOCIETY. MEMBERS ARE TO BE CONGRATULATED FOR THE MANY QUALITY PLANTS ON DISPLAY. WE THANK ALL MEMBERS WHO VOLUNTEERED TO STAFF THE DISPLAY AND SHARE THEIR ENTHUSIASM AND KNOWLEDGE OF ORCHID CULTURE WITH THE GENERAL PUBLIC. JAMES SATHER AND SHIRLEY KEITH ACCEPTED THE LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THE DESIGN OF THE DISPLAY AND THEY ALONG WITH AL HARTRIDGE (AND SON), DAVE ROBINSON, PAMELA MANN, MATTHEW SACKVILLE AND CHERYL



ADAMSON EXECUTED THE INNOVATIVE DESIGN IN A FLAWLESS MANNER. THE CREATION OF A DISPLAY INVOLVES SIGNIFICANT TIME AND EFFORT AND THE SOCIETY IS VERY GRATEFUL FOR THEIR COMMITMENT.

CHERYL ADAMSON, HEATHER ANDERSON, YVETTE LYSTER AND BOB LUCAS DEMONSTRATED THE ART OF REPOTTING AND DISCUSSED BASIC ORCHID CULTURE IN THE DEMONSTRATION THEATRE ON SATURDAY NIGHT. THE PRESENTATION WAS WELL ATTENDED AND THE AUDIENCE WAS ENTHUSIASTIC.

VISITING SPEAKER

TERRY LETENDRE OF EDMONTON WILL VISIT THE SOCIETY AT THE APRIL MEETING. IN ADDITION TO HIS PRESENTATION ON BULBOPHYLLUMS, HE WILL HAVE PLANTS FOR SALE. IN DEFERENCE TO TERRY, WE ASK THAT, IF POSSIBLE, YOU REFRAIN FROM BRINGING SALE PLANTS TO THE APRIL MEETING.

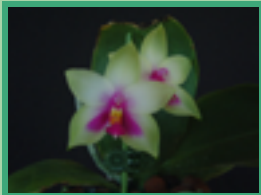
SOS EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS

ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE APRIL MEETING. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE EXECUTIVE, OR NOMINATING SOMEONE ELSE, PLEASE INFORM SHERIDA OR ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE PRIOR TO THE MEETING



PHAL BEDFORD GEM

DO YOU WANT TO JOIN THE EXECUTIVE AND CONTRIBUTE TO OUR GREAT SOCIETY? IF SO, TALK TO SHERIDA..



PHAL BELLINA

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2008-09

AS IN THE PAST THERE WILL BE AN INCENTIVE PROGRAM IN EFFECT DURING THE APRIL AND MAY MEETINGS. IF YOU RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AT EITHER OF THESE MEETINGS, YOU WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR A \$5.00 COUPON THAT CAN BE REDEEMED AT THE SUPPLIES TABLE.

COC SYMPOSIUM

THE COC ANNUAL MEETING AND SYMPOSIUM WILL BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OTTAWA ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW ON APRIL 26-27 AT THE NEPEAN SPORTSPLEX, 1701 WOODRUFFE AVE, NEPEAN, ONTARIO. FOR FUTHER DETAILS, SEE WWW.CANADIANORCHIDCONGRESS.CA

COC EXECUTIVE

THE COC IS LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WILLING TO SERVE ON THE EXECUTIVE. THERE ARE FOUR VACANCIES, SECRETARY, TREASURER, AND TWO VICE-PRESIDENTS. IF YOU ARE WILLING TO VOLUNTEER, TALK TO JAMES S.

CYPRIPEDIUM EXCURSION

THE EXECUTIVE IS EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF A TRIP TO NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN THIS JUNE TO VIEW CYPRIPEDIUM ORCHIDS IN SITU. FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE FORTHCOMING AT THE MAY MEETING.

ORCHID DIGEST GIVEAWAY

OLDER COPIES OF THE ORCHID DIGEST WILL BE GIVEN AWAY AT THE APRIL MEETING. ALTHOUGH THEY ARE DATED WITH RESPECT TO ADVERTISING, THEY CONTAIN GREAT PICTURES AND CULTURE INFORMATION. THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE LIBRARY TABLE.

MEETING AGENDA

- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- PROBLEM CORNER
- SHOW AND TELL
- COFFEE/SUPPLIES
- LETENDRE POWERPOINT
- PLANT RAFFLE AND SALE
- ADJOURNMENT

MARCH 16TH MEETING MINUTES

JAMES SATHER, STANDING IN FOR THE PRESIDENT, WELCOMED EVERYONE TO THE MEETING.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED THE OSA SHOW IN EDMONTON IN FEBRUARY REPORTED ON THE ACTIVITIES AND DISPLAYS. IT WAS APPARENT THAT ALL WHO ATTENDED ENJOYED THE EXPERIENCE GREATLY.

PLANT ORDERS FOR HAUSERMANN'S AND THE ORCHID INN MUST BE HANDED IN TODAY.

GARDENSCAPE VOLUNTEERS SHOULD PICK UP THEIR PASSES FROM SHERIDA ON THURSDAY, MARCH 27TH BETWEEN 3:30 AND 7:00 IN HALL C.

THE DISPLAY SETUP WILL COMMENCE AT 1:00 ON THURSDAY. PLANTS MAY BE DROPPED OFF BETWEEN 3:30 AND 7:00 IN HALL C. THEY SHOULD BE CLEANED AND STAKED AND TAGGED WITH YOUR NAME. PLANTS MUST BE PICKED UP ON SUNDAY BETWEEN 5:00 AND 5:30.

THE SOS WILL HOST A PRESENTATION IN THE DEMONSTRATION THEATRE ON SATURDAY, MARCH 29TH.

THE EXECUTIVE IS EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF A TRIP TO NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN THIS JUNE TO VIEW CYPRIPEDIUM ORCHIDS IN SITU.

FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE FORTHCOMING AT THE APRIL MEETING.

OVER THE NEXT TWO MONTHS WE WILL BE DISTRIBUTING PAST ISSUES OF THE AOS BULLETIN. ALTHOUGH THE ADVERTISING OF THESE ISSUES IS DATED, THERE ARE INFORMATIVE ARTICLES ON ORCHID CULTURE THAT YOU MAY FIND USEFUL. SEE ELLEN FOR A FREE COPY.

THE COC IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE EXECUTIVE. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, SEE JAMES OR AL.

AT THE APRIL MEETING, TERRY LETENDRE OF EDMONTON WILL PRESENT A TALK AND BRING PLANTS FOR SALE. THE MAY MEETING WILL FEATURE A POWERPOINT OF THE 19TH WOC HELD IN MIAMI IN JANUARY. IN SEPTEMBER, CHUCK TAYLOR (FAT OLD BALD GUY ORCHIDS) WILL VISIT THE SOCIETY AND HE WILL BRING PHRAGS FOR SALE

BOB F. WILL ORDER MORE LIGHTS IF THERE IS A DEMAND FOR THEM. LET BOB KNOW IF YOU WISH TO ORDER.

WEB PAGE OF THE MONTH

EACH MONTH WE WILL FEATURE A WEB PAGE. IF YOU HAVE A FAVORITE, SEND IT TO THE EDITOR. THIS MONTH'S FEATURE, COURTESY OF RON KAUFMANN OF THE ORCHID DIGEST, IS:

WWW.MOUNTAINORCHIDS.COM

MOUNTAIN ORCHIDS IS LOCATED IN

PLANT RAFFLE TICKETS ARE \$1.00 OR 3 FOR \$2.00. THE 14 RAFFLE PLANTS HAVE BEEN DONATED BY SAFEWAY FLORAL.

PROBLEM CORNER

HEATHER A: A CYMBIDIUM HAS BLACK SPOTS ON LEAVES (INCLUDING NEW GROWTHS) WHICH DEVELOPED SINCE THE FALL. THIS COULD BE FUNGUS – TRY MORE AIR MOVEMENT. THESE PLANTS NEED TO BE KEPT COOL

BOB F: HIS PHALS HAVE BLACK PITTING SPOTS. THEY HAVE BEEN WATERED WITH RAINWATER AND HAVE GOOD AIR CIRCULATION. TRY INCREASING NITROGEN AS THE PLANT COULD BE UNDER FERTILIZED. DON'T LET RAINWATER GO STAGNANT PRIOR TO USE. AERATION OF THE WATER WILL PREVENT THIS

SHOW AND TELL

HELGA S. (PHOTOS), BOB L., BOB F., EUGENE K., ELLEN R., DON K., CHERYL A., TRACEY T., JAMES S.

COFFEE BREAK

SLIDE SHOW "24 NATIVE ORCHIDS OF SASKATCHEWAN," A SLIDE SHOW DEVELOPED BY RUTHANNE HANBIDGE AND PRESENTED BY JAMES S.

PLANT RAFFLE AND SALE
ADJOURNMENT



PHAL SUN JE
DIAMOND

VERMONT AND SPECIALIZES IN COOL TO INTERMEDIATE GROWING ORCHIDS THAT ARE COMPACT/MINIATURE IN SIZE.

THE SITE ALSO HAS AN ECLECTIC AND USEFUL LINKS PAGE AS WELL AS A E-CARD ENGINE THAT ALLOWS YOU TO DESIGN YOUR OWN ORCHID E-CARD.

RIBBON JUDGING

BY SUSANN ATTON. (REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM THE SOUTH BAY ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER, JUNE, 2006.)



MAKE SURE YOUR PLANT IS FREE OF INSECTS AND PESTS

I OCCASIONALLY HEAR FROM MEMBERS ABOUT RIBBON JUDGING. SOMETIMES THEIR PLANT WAS NOT CHOSEN FOR THE BLUE RIBBON AND SOMETIMES THEY ARE WONDERING WHY. I EVEN HEAR QUERIES ABOUT WHY THEY DID GET THE BLUE RIBBON AND NOT THAT GORGEOUS FLOWER SITTING NEXT TO THEIR FLOWERS. SIMPLY PUT—IT'S THE WHOLE PACKAGE. THE PLANTS NEED A GREAT PRESENTATION AS WELL AS BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS.

FOR RIBBON JUDGING, A SET OF GENERAL CRITERIA IS USED THAT IS BASED ON THE BEST PLANT IN EACH CLASS IN WHICH IT IS REGISTERED AT THAT PARTICULAR SHOW. AOS JUDGING COMPARES A PLANT AGAINST THE SAME OR COMPARABLE PLANT (SUCH AS A CROSS IN THE SAME GROUP) THAT POSSIBLY HAS A PUBLISHED STANDARD ACROSS THE GLOBE. SOUNDS SIMPLE? NOT QUITE.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE AN AOS JUDGE TO PARTICIPATE IN RIBBON JUDGING. COMMON SENSE AND A GOOD EYE FOR COMPARISON ARE THE MAJOR CRITERIA IN ANY RIBBON JUDGING. THE CLASSIFICATION LISTS ARE SIMILAR PLANTS GROUPED TOGETHER HELPING YOU MAKE A BETTER DECISION. THAT IS, SPECIES CATTLEYAS, WHITE CATTLEYAS NO MARKINGS, WHITE CATTLEYAS WITH COLORED LIP, ARE ALL IN A GROUP. SO WE ARE COMPARING LIKE FLOWERS FOR THE FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD PLACE RIBBONS. BUT THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES WILL BE DETERMINE BY MORE THAN JUST PRETTY FLOWERS.

TO BEGIN TO LOOK FOR A RIBBON

WINNER, THE JUDGE LOOKS FOR CLEAN FLOWERS WITHOUT DAMAGE, WELL SPACED, GOOD COLOR, GOOD FLOWER COUNT, NICELY SHAPED, PLEASINGLY PRESENTED, AND SO ON. IF THE RIBBON JUDGE DECIDES ONE PLANT WITH A VERY LARGE AND NICELY SHAPED FLOWER IS AS GOOD AS A PLANT WITH THREE SMALLER FLOWERS OF APPROXIMATELY THE SAME QUALITIES, THEY CAN AWARD TWO FIRST PLACE RIBBONS.

IF THERE ARE ONLY TWO OR THREE PLANTS REGISTERED IN A CLASS AND ANY OR ALL OF THE PLANTS ARE LACKING (SUCH AS FADING, SPOTTED, DROOPY, BROWNING OR UNPLEASANT SHAPE), THEN THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH GOOD QUALITIES TO WARRANT A FIRST PLACE RIBBON, OR POSSIBLY EVEN A SECOND PLACE RIBBON. THE JUDGE HAS THE OPTION OF BYPASSING A RIBBON, OR EVEN A CLASS, FOR THAT MATTER. REMEMBER, AWARDED A RIBBON, WHETHER IT BE A FIRST-PLACE BLUE OR OTHER TELLS THE GROWER, "YOU ARE DOING A FINE JOB, KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK".

HERE ARE SOME TIPS FOR GETTING THE MOST OUT OF RIBBON JUDGING

1. MAKE SURE YOUR PLANT IS FREE OF INSECTS AND PESTS, SUCH AS MEALY BUGS, SCALE OR SOOTY MOLD. REMOVE SLUGS OR SLUG TRAILS ON THE POT, BARK OR PLANT. THESE CONDITIONS WILL USUALLY BE FOUND AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION, BUT IF A JUDGE SEES ANY OF THESE CONDITIONS HE WILL ASK TO HAVE THE PLANT

REMOVED TO ELIMINATE CONTAMINATION OF ADJACENT PLANTS. AVOID EMBARRASSMENT BY PRESENTING CLEAN PLANTS

2. REMOVE ANYTHING THAT DETRACTS FROM THE PLANT'S APPEARANCE. USE A CLEAN RAZOR BLADE TO REMOVE ANY DEAD, DYING OR BROKEN LEAVES FROM THE PLANT. REMOVE ANY FLOWERING STEMS THAT DETRACT FROM THE PICTURE, LIKE THOSE WITH DAMAGE FROM BACTERIA OR PEST, AND THOSE WITH DYING FLOWERS.

3. AS THE FLOWER SPIKES START FORMING, STAKE THE SPIKES WHILE BUDS ARE STILL FORMING. WHEN THE BUDS BEGIN TO OPEN DO NOT TURN OR MOVE THE PLANT. FLOWERS ARE SENSITIVE TO LIGHT AND CHANGING THE DIRECTION OF THE LIGHT WILL CAUSE THE FLOWER TO TURN TOWARD THE LIGHT. PHALS LOOK THEIR BEST WHEN ALL THE FLOWERS ARE POINTING IN THE SAME DIRECTION. PAPHS SHOULD FACE STRAIGHT AHEAD, NOT BENDING DOWN OR UP TOWARD THE CEILING.

4. CLEAN THE EXTERIOR OF THE POT OR PUT THE PLANT INSIDE A DECORATIVE CONTAINER, BUT NOT SO DECORATIVE AS TO DETRACT FROM YOUR PLANT. THE FLOWERS AND PLANTS SHOULD BE THE MAIN OBJECTS NOTICED FOREMOST.

5. STAKE UP ANY ERRANT GROWING PSEUDO-BULBS. FLOPPY LOOKING CATTLEYAS ARE NOT WHAT THE JUDGES LIKE TO SEE. IF THE BULB IS FLOPPED OVER THE FLOWERS WILL NOT PRESENT THEMSELVES IN THE BEST LIGHT

6. REMOVE THE DEAD PAPER-LIKE COVERING ON CATTLEYA PSEUDO-BULBS. THE REMAINING COVERING OF DEAD LEAVES AT THE BASE OF

CYMBIDIUM BACK BULBS SHOULD BE REMOVED ALSO. THIS WILL ELIMINATE THE HIDING PLACE FOR SCALE AND FUNGUS, AS WELL AS IMPROVE THE APPEARANCE OF THE PLANT

7. CLEAN THE LEAVES OF ANY HARD WATER STAINS. A SOLUTION OF MILK AND WATER WORKS NICELY. THE ACID IN THE MILK WILL DISSOLVE THE HARD WATER DEPOSITS AND THE FAT IN THE MILK WILL MAKE THE LEAVES SHINE SLIGHTLY. USE A COTTON BALL, DIPPING IT IN THE SOLUTION AND RUB GENTLY. DO NOT USE COMMERCIAL FORMULAS SUCH AS LEAF SHINE.

8. HIDE OLD LOOKING POTTING MEDIA, POSSIBLY WITH MOSS OR A TOPPING OF FRESH BARK.

9. IF YOU ARE PUTTING YOUR PLANT IN A SHOW IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO WATER IT A DAY OR TWO BEFORE REGISTRATION. THE DRIER CONDITIONS OF AN EXHIBITION AREA WILL DEHYDRATE THE PLANT QUICKLY AND THE FIRST THING TO GO WILL BE THE FLOWERS.

IDEALLY, EVERYONE SHOULD BE FREE OF BIAS AND PREJUDICE. UNFORTUNATELY, THIS IS NOT ALWAYS THE CASE, SO A GOOD JUDGE IS EXPECTED TO CONTROL ANY BIAS OR PREJUDICE. TWO OF THE MOST IMPORTANT HUMAN TRAITS ANY JUDGE SHOULD POSSESS IS TO BE ETHICAL AND TO HAVE AN OBJECTIVE VALIDITY TO THEIR ATTITUDES AND EMOTIONS.

AFTER ALL, PERSONALITIES, ATTITUDES, EMOTIONS, EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE ARE QUALITIES THAT MAKE LIFE SO INTERESTING. HOWEVER, THEY CAN ALSO MAKE ANY JUDGING A CHALLENGING TASK.



PHAL TEXAS FANCY



LET THERE BE LIGHT PART I

BY BOB LUCAS

“LIGHT IS THE ONLY PLANT FOOD. ALL THE OTHER THINGS WE GIVE A PLANT ARE JUST TO HELP IT DIGEST AND USE THE LIGHT.” (HOW TO SUPERCHARGE YOUR GARDEN, BY G, REINERS AND M. MAINLY, MAINLY PUBLICATIONS, ABBOTSFORD, B. C, 1999.)

LIGHT DENSITY

A VERY IMPORTANT PROPERTY OF LIGHT IS ITS DENSITY. THE UNIT OF MEASUREMENT OF ITS DENSITY, FOOT-CANDLE OR LUMEN, PREDATES THE ELECTRICAL AGE WHEN CANDLES WERE THE PRIMARY SOURCE OF ILLUMINATION. A FOOT-CANDLE (LUMEN) IS THE AMOUNT OF LIGHT INTENSITY PROVIDED BY ONE CANDLE ON A SURFACE AREA OF ONE SQUARE FOOT HELD ONE FOOT AWAY.

DISTANCE IS INCLUDED IN THE DEFINITION BECAUSE THE GREATER THE DISTANCE FROM THE CANDLE, THE LARGER IS THE AREA ILLUMINATED AND THE SMALLER IS THE INTENSITY OF LIGHT FALLING ON ONE SQUARE FOOT OF SURFACE. THEREFORE, A LIGHT METER MUST BE POSITIONED AT THE LEAF TO ACCURATELY MEASURE THE LIGHT INTENSITY THE PLANT RECEIVES. THE WATTAGE OF A BULB IS MEANINGLESS BECAUSE VARIOUS BULB TYPES PRODUCE DIFFERENT AMOUNTS OF ILLUMINATION AT THE SOURCE.

TO ENSURE THAT THE LIGHT EMITTED FROM YOUR SOURCE IS FULLY UTILIZED, YOU CAN (A) KEEP LIGHTS AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO THE PLANTS (EASIER IF YOU GROW AT COOLER TEMPERATURES) AND (B) USE WALLS OR OTHER REFLECTING SURFACES TO COLLECT AND REDIRECT THE LIGHT THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE WASTED.

FOR EXAMPLE, IN A LARGE ROOM IT IS MOST EFFICIENT TO UTILIZE A CORNER RATHER THAN THE CENTER OF THE ROOM, AS LESS LIGHT WILL BE

WASTED IN A CORNER. PROOF OF THIS IS THE FACT THAT BUDS NEAR A WALL WILL TURN TOWARD THE WALL RATHER THAN TOWARD THE LIGHT SOURCE, DRAWN BY THE GREATER INTENSITY OF LIGHT AT THE WALL.

LIGHT SPECTRUM

ANOTHER IMPORTANT PROPERTY OF LIGHT IS ITS SPECTRUM. LEAVES HAVE CELLS (PIGMENTS) THAT ABSORB LIGHT AND CONVERT LIGHT ENERGY (PHOTONS) TO CHEMICAL ENERGY (ELECTRONS). WITH THE CHEMICAL ENERGY EXTRACTED (PHOTOSYNTHESIS) AND RAW MATERIALS SUCH AS CARBON DIOXIDE AND WATER, THE PLANT IS ABLE TO CREATE OXYGEN AND CARBOHYDRATES SUCH AS SUCROSE, GLUCOSE AND STARCH, THE ENERGY OF LIFE.

CHLOROPHYLLS ARE THE PIGMENTS MOST HEAVILY INVOLVED IN PHOTOSYNTHESIS AND THEY ABSORB ALL FREQUENCIES OF LIGHT (EXCEPT GREEN) WITH THE HEAVIEST ABSORPTION IN THE VIOLET/BLUE AND RED FREQUENCIES. IF YOUR LIGHT SOURCE DOES NOT HAVE THE FULL SPECTRUM PROPERTIES OF SUNLIGHT, YOUR ORCHIDS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO DEVELOP THE ENERGY THEY NEED FOR OPTIMAL GROWTH.

MANY FLORESCENT LIGHTS ARE DESIGNED TO PRODUCE PARTICULAR FREQUENCIES SUCH AS VIOLET/BLUE (COOL) OR RED (HOT). YOU MUST MIX THESE TYPES TO GET A FULL SPECTRUM EFFECT, OR ALTERNATIVELY SPEND A LITTLE MORE AND PURCHASE A FULL SPECTRUM BULB. HIGH PRESSURE SODIUM AND METAL HALIDE BULBS GENERATE LIGHT PREDOMINATELY IN THE YELLOW-RED RANGE. YET, THEIR GREATER INTENSITY OF LIGHT MEANS THAT THEY ARE AN EFFECTIVE COMPROMISE BETWEEN OPTIMAL INTENSITY AND SPECTRUM.

BUDS POSITIONED NEAR A WALL WILL TURN TOWARD THE WALL

