



THE KEIKI



Coming Soon



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September 2023

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, September 16th open at 11 AM and the meeting starts at noon with Norman Fang Northcliffe Baptist Church 10515 Northcliffe Blvd Spring Hill, Florida 34608

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Thanks to those who have contributed to our club.....Advertisement page

President's Message



Hi everyone, I hope that everyone fared well in hurricane Idalia last week. Aside from the severe storm surge flooding in our immediate coastal waters, I think the rest of us dodged a bullet. I had moved everything inside my lanai (it looked like a jungle!) and took the opportunity to power wash my pool deck. That's MUCH easier without all the orchids out there. So at least there was some benefit to the storm.

All of that said, our coastal areas really took a bad hit. In the coming weeks, perhaps we can all find a way to help them out, by making sure to patronize their small businesses once they reopen, and perhaps showing up to help them with cleanup. I still haven't seen much detail from places like Ozello and Crystal River, but I know they will have taken some terrible damage.

In happier thoughts, our upcoming meeting on September 16th will feature speaker Norman Fang, an internationally recognized orchid expert. We have placed a special pre-order with Norman at his website, www.orchids.com, and he will be bringing those plants to the folks who ordered them. If you ordered plants you can pick them up and pay for them at the meeting

Because Norman will not be bringing plants for sale, our members WILL be able to sell plants at this meeting. If you have some plants you'd like to sell to our members, please bring them to the meeting.

Our auction in August was a huge success! We had tremendous participation from our club members, including plant donations, assistance with setup and running the event, food, collecting plants from our wonderful vendors, and buying plants. There are too many people to thank individually, but you all know who you are. Susan Kimmel did a fantastic job as auction chair organizing everything for us. Our auctioneer, Laura Newton did a superhuman job going through all those plants without even a break. Whew! We had a really great selection of plants including many unusual and hard-to-find varieties. I'd like to thank the vendors who contributed plants, either as donations or at a steep discount:

Accent Orchids, St. Petersburg
 St. Pete Orchid Farm, St. Petersburg
 Orchids In Bloom, Apopka
 Ecuagenera, Apopka
 Smiley Orchids, Clermont
 Florida Suncoast Orchids, Myakka City
 Palmer Orchids, Sarasota

So how did we do?

Total plants sold:	226
Bidders	63
Total of all bids:	\$5,237.00
Total profit:	\$3,921.65

All of these numbers are records for our auction. THANK YOU ALL!!!

Hope to see you all at the meeting. It should be a lot of fun!

Matt

EXECUTIVE BOARD

OFFICERS

<u>President</u>	Matt Riesz
<u>Past President</u>	Steve Mattana
<u>1st Vice President</u>	Bob East
<u>2nd Vice President</u>	Bella Roberts
<u>Treasurer</u>	Herbert May
<u>Executive Secretary</u>	Cheryl Crilly
<u>Recording Secretary for meetings</u> (not an elected position)	Cheryl Crilly
<u>Trustees</u>	Rosanne Wenz Jeanne Montgomery

EXECUTIVE BOARD

COMMITTEES

<u>Auction Chair</u>	Susan Kimmel
<u>Show Chair</u>	Bob East
<u>Bulletin (The Keiki)</u>	Julie Smolka
<u>E-mail Co-ordinator</u>	Matt Riesz
<u>Historian</u>	Susan Kimmel
<u>Membership</u>	Arlene and Arty Appelbaum
<u>Publicity</u>	Gertie Messenger
<u>Refreshment Table</u>	Annie Aierstock
<u>Refreshment Reminders</u>	Annie Aierstock
<u>Show Table Report</u>	Matt Riesz
<u>Speaker Segment Writer</u>	Volunteers please
<u>Trips</u>	Volunteers please
<u>Webmaster</u>	Bob East (Website set up by Ken Dunn)
<u>AOS Representative</u>	Matt Riesz

NCOS speaker schedule through December 2023

Updated as of 3/1/2023

Note: Dates *** are different from our normal 3rd Saturday schedule, as the facility is not available on our normal dates those months.

March 18th/19th – annual orchid show

April 15th – Bill Nunez – Vanilla orchids in FL

May 20th – repotting workshop

***June 24th – Ecuagenera/Dayanette

July 15th – Bret Ullery – Accent Orchids

August 19th – Auction

September 16th – Norman Fang

***October 14th - Picnic

November - TBD

December 16th - <Holiday Party>



Membership Notes

by Arlene Appelbaum

Our August auction proved to be an outstanding success for NCOS.

In addition to the dollars generated, we also added 2 new members to our numbers, which now total 122. Our September meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 16 at Northcliffe Church starting at 11A.M. Hope to see you there.

Arlene Appelbaum
Membership

TREASURER'S REPORT

Current Report as of

Prior bal. as of 8/01/2023:	\$
Total receipts (raffle, etc.):	\$
Total disbursements:	\$
Bank bal. as of 2023:	\$
Outstanding Checks:	\$
Cash On Hand 2023:	\$

MEMBERS:

Arlene has graciously taken over sending get-well cards and sympathy cards to members. If you know of any members who are ill or grieving, please send her an email to let her know at fluffy2cats@gmail.com



THANK YOU!

Lubber Grasshoppers

By Susan Jones from AOS website

One of the largest and slowest moving grasshoppers, lubbers can attain 3 inches (7.5 cm) in length at maturity, and cause a great deal of damage to an orchid collection. Different species are found in various geographic regions of the United States: eastern lubbers (*Romalea guttata*, found from central North Carolina west through southern Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas to Texas and throughout Florida), horse lubbers (*Taeniopoda eques*, native to Texas and Arizona, down into Mexico), plains lubbers (*Brachystola magna*, most commonly found on the prairies of the western part of the United States and Mexico) and southeastern lubbers (*Romalea microptera*, which spread out from North Carolina to Florida, west to Louisiana and northeast to Tennessee)



A swarm of nymphs can devour everything in their path

Description

Although there is some variation among the different species, all are flightless and quite large as grasshoppers go, with females attaining greater length at maturity than males. Distinctively colored and patterned, the immature ones have different coloration from their adult counterparts. All share the chitinous exoskeleton typical of grasshoppers that helps protect them from predators and prevent dehydration.

Eastern lubbers are flightless, although not wingless. They move from place to place primarily by walking, but are capable of jumping short distances. Adults of this species are yellow, spotted black, with red coloration under their wings, and reach 2? (6 cm) to more than 3 inches (8 cm) in length.

Unlike some of their less athletic cousins, horse lubbers have long hind legs that allow them to cover distances of up to 20 times their own length in a single jump. These lubbers are black at maturity, with yellow markings and black-and-orange-striped antennae, and attain a length of 2½ inches (6.4 cm).

Flightless plains lubbers are also capable of jumping from several inches to several feet using their oversized hind legs. Their bodies are reddish brown in color, marked with greenish brown. Their wings are colored with ABOVE Southeastern lubber nymphs feeding on landscape foliage. reddish brown and black spots, and they have a row of light-colored dots on their abdomens. The smallest of the lubbers, this grasshopper is still fairly large, reaching up to 1? inches (4 cm) in length as an adult.

Adult southeastern lubbers come in two color schemes: mustard yellow with black markings, the southerners among them with a reddish stripe as well, or black with yellow stripes. They grow to be 2–2¾ inches (5–7 cm) in length, and are flightless

Life Cycle

After mating, lubbers deposit caches of approximately 25 to 50 eggs, depending on the species, in the ground during the summer. These eggs overwinter underground and begin to hatch out from mid-March to June, depending on the region. In warmer areas, such as the southeastern United States, the hatching is earlier, while for species such as the plains lubbers in the western parts of the country, later spring is the expected arrival time for the young. The wingless nymphs (immature grasshoppers) crawl up out of the soil in groups and begin their search for food. The young lubbers will molt their exoskeletons five times at roughly 15-day intervals before reaching adulthood, when they settle down to breed and begin the cycle anew.

Habitat and Feeding

Although each type of lubber has its preferred plant or plants on which it feeds in its natural environment, all are fairly catholic eaters and, given the opportunity, will usually cause damage to a wide variety of greenery. This includes one's prized orchids. Young lubbers usually travel in large numbers, swarming and devouring plant material as they go. Knowing which plants they favor can help growers to be on the lookout for these pests; also, keep orchids far away from host plants. Eastern lubbers are most often found in open pinewoods, weedy fields and the vegetation along roadsides. Their preferred foods include the foliage of citrus, vegetables and ornamental plants. Horse lubbers stick to grasslands and oak woods, desert annuals and foliage of perennial shrubs, including mesquite. The plains lubbers hang out in the prairies, roadside vegetation, in vacant lots or at the edges of fields. Their favorite food is sunflowers, but they will also consume various grasses, weeds and many other types of flowers and young cotton plants. Southeastern lubbers frequent roadsides, field edges and gardens, noshing on ornamentals, vegetables and even citrus leaves.

Defensive Characteristics

Lubbers have at their disposal a variety of relatively unpalatable means of defending themselves against threats from other creatures.

The bright coloration and patterning on a lubber's shell is an aposematic, or warning, pattern to predators that they are unpalatable to downright poisonous. Lubbers ingest and assimilate substances in the plants they consume that, although harmless to humans and the lubbers themselves, are toxic to many predators. These chemicals may kill smaller creatures such as birds or leave larger animals quite ill after ingesting a lubber.

If their color pattern is insufficient to warn off a would-be predator, the lubbers are capable of secreting a noxious foam while making a loud hissing sound when threatened. In addition, like most grasshoppers, they can also regurgitate a dark brown liquid (commonly called tobacco spit) as a defense.



Lubber adults are colorful and formidable in appearance.

Controls

Chemical control is effective only against the nymph stage. There are several insecticides toxic to grasshoppers that are registered for use on ornamentals, fruits and vegetables, such as Cygon. These are not, however, approved for use on orchids. If control of the young lubbers on host plants for which the insecticides are approved is the goal, chemical control is an option. Otherwise, these pests are best eradicated by hand.

Because most species are fairly slow moving and all are harmless to humans, they can be hand-picked from a favored plant or netted. Various orchid growers recommend their own preferred lubber-control weaponry, including a brick, shoe, broom or even the broad side of a machete, but squashing them does seem to be the favored approach.

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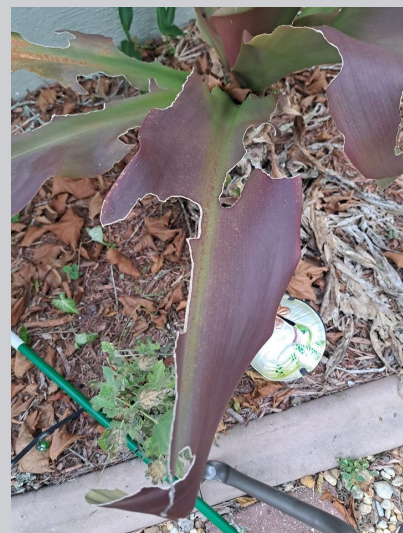
Susan Jones was the editor of Awards Quarterly and assistant editor of Orchids. American Orchid Society, 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach, Florida 33446

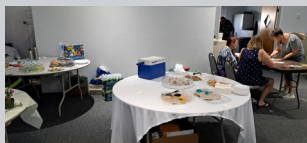
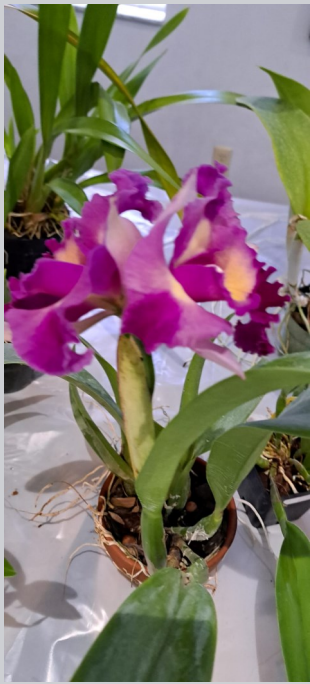
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Some damage to a member's plant







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Presenter	The world's top orchid experts share the latest valuable information on caring for your orchids, orchid research and continuing education.	Sergey Skoropad AOS Judge - NE Judging Center	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer



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donated plants to help make our annual auction
a success

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St. Pete Orchid Farm, St. Petersburg
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Ecuagenera, Apopka
Smiley Orchids, Clermont
Florida Suncoast Orchids, Myakka City
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