

## Care of your Angraecoid Orchid

The Angraecoid orchid that you receive has been grown in medium light greenhouse conditions with warm days and cool nights, but should quickly adapt to your home. In nature, Angraecoids are epiphytic, so they experience dry conditions and moderate light levels due to variable amounts of shading by the trees in which they grow. You will see that the leaves are relatively thick and fleshy but there are no pseudobulbs. The bronze color of the leaves in *Aerangis fastuosa* and the orange color of the roots in many *Aerangis* species is a normal feature of the plant. The leaves are the primary storage area for moisture. If the leaves are smooth and firm feeling, the plant is getting enough water. If the leaves become limp or badly shriveled, this means that the plant needs more water. Some shriveling is normal if you forget to water for a while, and is nothing to worry about.

Angraecoids produce aerial roots that will extend outside the pot or the moss ball on the mount, and this is perfectly normal. They should be left exposed and will eventually grab onto the cork to help anchor the plant if it is mounted. It is good to make sure that all of the aerial roots become wet when you water your plant. Never trim live roots from an Angraecoid or any other orchid. Your Angraecoid can tolerate a broad range of light levels and temperatures.

For mounted Angraecoids, follow the general care instructions for mounted orchids, and your plant should thrive. Angraecoids generally produce one flower stalk at a time, with several fragrant flowers, but some species may produce more, especially when fully mature.

Many of the seedlings that we sell come potted in sphagnum moss because we have found that immature plants stay healthiest and grow fastest that way. They can usually continue to be grown in the moss for another year, but can also be potted into a medium of your choice or mounted.

Enjoy your orchid! If you have any questions about caring for your orchid, feel free to contact us by e-mail or phone.

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