



Clifton
NURSERIES

ORCHID CARE



PHALAENOPSIS

The hybrid Phalaenopsis sold at Clifton Nurseries is descended from species which originated in the tropics, more particularly from the Far East. Their natural habitat of tropical forest supplies these epiphytic plants with limbs on which to climb and ramble.

LIGHT

These plants must have very good light, but should be protected from strong direct summer sun which will scorch the leaves.

WATER

To lessen the risk of rotting, Phalaenopsis should be watered in the morning and you should ensure the leaves are not wet at night. Similarly, care should be taken not to let water gather in the leaf axis. Water should be poured through the plant, thoroughly wetting the medium, but should be allowed to drain freely. Never sit the Orchid in water. The best way to determine the time for watering is to feel the plant's weight. As soon as it feels light it should be watered.

TEMPERATURE

Day time temperatures of around 23°C (73°F) are ideal, with night time temperatures of 5°-10°C (9-18°F) lower. It is advisable to have slightly lower night time temperatures for four weeks in October. At all times, good air movement and increased humidity are beneficial.



FEED

When plants are in active growth, they should be fed at each watering with 'Tomorite' or 'Baby Bio' at half the recommended dosage. In the winter feed at every second watering.

REPOT

Plants should be repotted every two years with good quality compost. This can be done whenever the plant is not in flower.