



Dendrobium

den-DROH-bee-um

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Phalaenanth

Evergreen for several years, with thin, tall pseudo bulbs, terminal inflorescences, usually appearing in the autumn or twice a year (see culture). Species such as Den. affine, Den. Bigibbum – Hard Cane Dendrobium, Den. Dicuphum and Den. Williamsianum.

Culture Grow warm year round (see below); 15C nights; water and fertilize heavily when roots appear from new growth; medium light; reduce water and fertilizer after growth finishes. If a short (three- to four-week), cooler (13C) dry rest is given, and then plants are warmed again (15C minimum), another growth may mature during winter and flower in the spring. Treat this growth as a summer growth cycle. Plants will go deciduous if grown too cool and dry.

Dendrobium

Most of the plants are pendulous, with leaves all along the canes that most often drop with onset of cooler, drier weather. One to five flowers per node are borne from the nodes of the leafless canes in midwinter through early spring.

Group 1 Species such as Den. chrysanthum, Den. friedricksianum, Den. Nobile – Soft Cane Dendrobium and Den. wardianum

Culture Growth period in summer; give warmth, water and fertilize heavily from when roots appear until top leaf appears on canes. Then give high light, little or no water, no fertilizer, cool nights (5C to 10C). In other words, forget about them.

