



Burnham Nurseries

ORCHID PARADISE

Warm Species Care



Warmer growing orchid species need a little more care when growing in the British climate as we have quite a temperate environment here. They often come from lower altitude habitats in South America, Africa and the Far East. A general rule is that most warm growing species should not go below 15°C (60°F) in winter. This is a difference of around 10° from the normal daytime or summer temperature required. This fluctuation is entirely natural and necessary to ensure the correct growing and flowering of the orchids. This extra warmth can mean that the plants dry out a bit more quickly so they may need more regular watering and spraying to increase the humidity.

Here are a few of the most popular genera of warm growing species:

BULBOPHYLLUMS: These orchids like slightly drier conditions so don't mind drying out well in between waterings and require a rest in winter when they are not growing. These also require good light but shaded from the bright, direct summer sun. They are from all over the tropical areas of the world.

ANGRAECUMS: Some of these orchids can grow quite large and require warmth and high humidity. Regular watering and misting all year round. These are from Madagascar.

VANDACEOUS TYPES: These include vandas and aerides. Often they are growing in empty baskets with little or no compost so rely heavily on high humidity. Hang them in good light and spray daily. These are Far Eastern.

Other genera liking warm conditions are *Catasetum*, *Cattleya*, *Laelia*, *Aspasia*, *Miltonia*, *Dendrochilum*, *Paphiopedilum*, *Phragmipedium* and *Phalaenopsis*

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