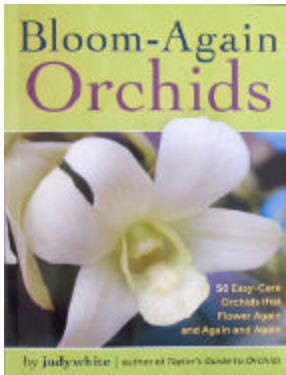


ROA LIBRARY

The library has received two new books, *Orchids* by Thomas J. Sheehan and *Bloom-Again Orchids* by judywhite. The latter was mentioned recently in the Home and Garden section of The Richmond Times Dispatch.



Bloom-Again Orchids is an excellent book for the novice and would-be novice. Its introduction gives a brief recent history of orchids. It explains the difference between sympodial and monopodial orchids and lists some of the cultural basics. It has a list ten helpful tips for growing orchids. This section will probably disappoint the beginner who would like to have a list of specific instructions. With orchids, however, that is not to be had.

The main part of the book is a list of attractive, easy-to grow-and rebloom orchids. Each item in the list includes a pronunciation key, a brief cultural outline, a checklist of twelve characteristics describing the plant, a half page discussion of the plant and a full page color photograph of the plant in bloom.

Certainly all fifty of these orchids are beautiful and easy to grow. Just follow the author's instructions. Not all of us can grow all fifty, however, because we can't provide the varied cultural conditions required by all fifty. The novice is advised to acquire only those orchids for which he or she can provide favorable cultural conditions. (A .tip from my own experience. When I first started growing orchids I got an orchid of everything that struck my fancy without regard as to whether I had the right conditions for it. Some immediately died a horrible death. Others didn't die but just sat there and sulked. A few, however, bloomed gloriously. I was hooked.)

The book closes with a table of abbreviations for species and hybrids which should be helpful to all orchidists. The photography is very good.

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