

Intergeneric Orchids

Intergeneric orchids are a result of breeding two or more genera together. These orchids primarily belong to the Odontoglossum tribe and includes the genus of Brassia, Cochlioda, Miltonia, Odontoglossum, and Oncidium. Often times when looking at the showy flower of an Intergeneric orchid you can see which genus is the most dominate.



Intergeneric orchids and their relatives are epiphytes, naturally growing on rocks and trees. They store water and nutrients in a structure called the Pseudobulbs. The plants themselves are large in comparison to their fine roots. They bloom on the mature new growth of the orchid. Most Intergeneric orchids can bloom up to two times a year in a greenhouse environment, however in the home they will typically bloom only once per year.

How to keep your Intergeneric healthy

Light: Moderate indirect light. Placing Intergeneric orchids in a South facing window usually is best. Small amounts of direct sunlight is okay. The foliage should be medium green color, indicating the orchid is getting enough light to flower. A purple color on the leaves indicates too much light

Temperature: The ideal temperature during the day is 60°F to 88°F. Most Intergeneric orchids are cooler growing, but dislike temperatures that exceed 78°F during the day. Good air circulation will help them tolerate higher temperatures. Some hybrids can tolerate colder temperatures in dry environments to 45°F, but this practice is not recommended.

Watering: Watering should be done in the morning hours. You can water heavy overhead, or soak potted orchid in the sink for ten minutes. In cold areas the water temperature should not be below 45°F. Watering with ice cubes is NOT recommended. Water is an essential nutrient for plant development. In moderate light water once to twice a week in winter, and two to three times a week in summer. When in doubt, check the bottom of the pot, if it looks dry, then water.

Feeding: Intergeneric orchids are moderate feeders and require fertilizing every third watering. Use **Gubler Pro Blend Orchid Food 19-8-16**. This formula is exactly what we use in our nurseries. By feeding every third watering, you will be feeding more during the longer days of summer when the orchid is growing faster, and less in the shorter days of winter.

Repotting: Should be done once every 12 months. It is best to repot after the orchid is done flowering. Plants that have overgrown their container should be potted into a suitable container the next size larger. You may choose any container, provided it has good bottom drainage. We do not recommend pots with slits on the side. Transplant using **Gublers Orchid Grow Mix- Fine Grade** regardless of pot size.

What to expect: Flowers are showy and in unique color combinations and shapes. Blues, reds, whites, yellows, oranges, and browns are just some of the color combinations that can be produced. The flower size will vary, but most are about 2 1/2 inches wide. Each yearly bloom should produce 4-8 flowers per spike depending on plant maturity. Flowers should last approximately four to five weeks, depending on your growing conditions. They are a good orchid for the intermediate grower, and ideal in colder climates.