

Cultural Information- Sophrolaeliocattleya

(so-fro-lay-lee-oh-KAT-lee-yuh)

<u>Light:</u>	Partial sun, an eastern or western exposure. Some direct sunlight is beneficial.
<u>Temperature:</u>	A minimum nighttime temperature above 50° with a 10-degree increase in temperature during the day is helpful.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; put orchids on a humidity tray or a tray with pebbles to help with humidity.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring potting medium to almost dryness unless growing in bark or coir chips, and then water them on a schedule usually every 7-10 days. Thoroughly saturate.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	During their growing season, periodically fertilize with ½ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water every four weeks. Do not over fertilize. The roots are sensitive to too much feed. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like Dyna-Gro Liquid Grow Plant Food 7-9-5.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Cut off old flower spikes after flowering is done.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Most susceptibility to root rot.
<u>Comments:</u>	Repot every 12-18 months and make sure they are held tightly within the pot. Root health is the most important aspect of orchid culture. Light is the next important aspect. If declining, generally the root system has been lost.