

Aromatic Orchids Promotion in the World – an Overview

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Abstract

Orchids are extremely diverse not only in color, size, and bloom shapes, but also in the way they smell. Orchid fragrance is a relatively volatile substance found in plants. It is stored as essential oils in special cells (osmopheres) at the periphery of flowers, leaves or roots. It has been estimated that as many as 75% of all orchids are fragrant. The emit detectable chemical compounds – some extremely fragrant while in some instance they are extremely repulsive smells. Only some of the odoriferous compounds released by flowers are detectable by the human sense of smell, since these are complex substances closely related to the body chemistry of the pollinators, they are supposed to attract. Nowadays due to increasing awareness towards aromatic products, there is tremendous pressure on all regions belonging to aromatic plants. Almost orchid's fragrances are sweet and pleasant, but some can even be revolting and smell of rotting meat. For some of them, the potential risk of over-exploitation led to their inclusion in CITES. In this review, we will talk about some varieties that are best known for their pleasant smelling fragrance. Only small amounts are present as the substance can be toxic. Being volatile, they readily change into vapour at ordinary temperature, which allows us to smell them. Since people are under stress especially in crowded cities, growing aromatic plants is necessary as a main factor to decrease the mentally pressures.

Keywords: Scent, olfactory, Fragrance, Chemical investigation.