

Orchid Plant Description



Orchids (orchidaceae) first appeared nearly 200 million years ago—having spread from the equator to the Arctic Circle. The genus name is derived from the Greek phalaino (moth), and opsis (appearance), representing the moth-like flowers of some species.

Orchids are a member of Asparagales family, an order of monocotyledonous flowering plants that also includes the asparagus and iris families. The majority of cultivated orchids are native to the tropics—they comprise nearly 1,000 genera and more than 25,000 species scattered throughout the world.

Orchids tend to grow high in the trees instead of the forest floor – accustomed to good air circulation and plenty of light. They usually have thick, white roots that are adapted to absorb moisture and dissolved nutrients. They are a diverse and widespread family of flowering plants, with blooms that are colourful and fragrant.