



PROGRESS REPORT
2019 GRANT
AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY
LA RESERVA ORQUIDEAS

The Colombian Orchid Society received assistance from the American Orchid Society during 2019 with the purpose of supporting research and conservation of orchids in the cloud forest of Jardín, Antioquia, particularly in “La Reserva Orquídeas.” This grant money has been used in the following activities:

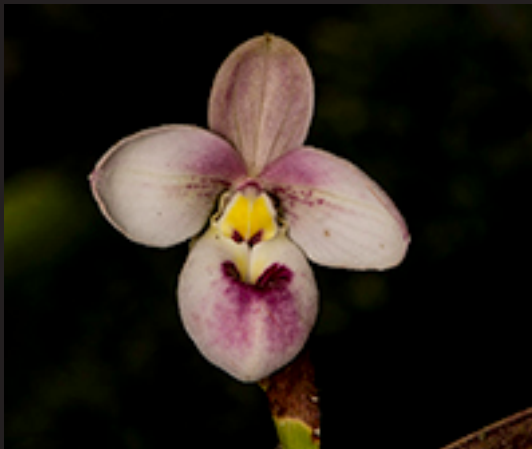
- We have held 2 workshops at La Reserva Orquídeas, and are aiming for 6 more that will be held before February 2020, we have reached about 40 people so far and aim to reach 60 more including children.
- We have done three public national and one international public talks disseminating activities and results of our ongoing efforts in Conservation.
- We will have observation trails, a video and education booklets in place before February 2020 to keep promoting conservation at La Reserva Orquídeas in the future.



Orchids identification



Work has been done on the identification of orchid genera and species that have been found at the Reserva. Experts in different groups of orchids such as: Mark Wilson in *Pleurothallis*, Eric Hagsater in *Epidendrum* and some others have been consulted. Three species are under study and appear to be new species.



Phragmipedium schlimii (Linden) Braem



Odontoglossum ramosissimum Lindl.



Epidendrum sp.



Lepanthes sp. New species

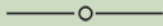
Orchid identification field guide

Inventario de orquídeas de:

Algunas orquídeas que se han encontrado en la reserva

Este catálogo ha sido posible gracias al apoyo de la

American Orchid Society
AOS



Orchid Inventory of
Reserva Orquídeas

This catalog has been made possible thanks to the support of the

American Orchid Society
AOS



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.

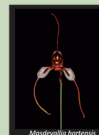


Photographers by
Luis Eduardo Mejía
Tatiana Arias
Sebastián Vieira

In order to assist in the identification of orchid species at La Reserva Orquídeas, field guides are being prepared. We have also used the monetary help from AOS to prepare field guides for birds and butterflies identified in La Reserva.

Field guides were done using a creative design that will allow the user to easily locate the orchids while walking. These are water proof and easy to carry with self-adhesive prints (3 x 9 inches) that are easily editable.

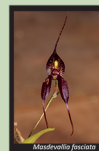
These guides will be useful for environmental education and to create conservation awareness among visitors.



Masdevallia hortensis



Masdevallia amanda



Masdevallia foveolata




Community workshops at La Reserva

Two courses, one in general botany, and one about the botany of orchids including basic taxonomy of orchids have been taught. Between 15 and 19 people attended each course, including tour guides, nature-loving walkers, farmers, elders and forest rangers from governmental entities.

During January and February 2020 we will offer the following workshops:

- ☐ Introduction to the cloud forest
- ☐ Plant photography
- ☐ Orchid horticulture
- ☐ The role of birds in the forest
- ☐ Cloud forest tree taxonomy
- ☐ Botany and scientific illustration





¿Está interesado en conocer un poco de la botánica de los bosques que nos rodean?

Lo invitamos a participar en los talleres
que dictaremos en la Reserva Orquídeas

19 de Octubre	Orquídeas y epífitas
20 de Octubre	Bases de la Botánica

Informes e inscripciones en:

- sco@sco.org.co
- Viajeros Calle 10 No 2-12 Jardín
- Reserva Orquídeas, situada en la vereda Quebrada Bonita.

Cupos limitados

Talleres sin costo alguno



Examples of invitation poster for workshops

CERTIFICADO DE PARTICIPACIÓN

Este certificado se concede a

Por su participación en el curso taller

BOTÁNICA GENERAL

Dado en la Reserva Orquideas

Municipio de Jardín, Antioquia

Sociedad Colombiana de Orquideología



Tatiana Ariza G.
PhD. en Ciencias Biológicas
Asesora científica de la SCO

Con el apoyo de



Example Certificate of attendance to workshop



About 30% of epiphytes are constantly replaced in the cloud forest, some because they are eaten by animals, others because they die and the vast majority because branches supporting them break and fall.

Rescue, recovery, phenology and identification of orchids fallen from trees

Normally in a native forest, the process of plant falling to the ground and decomposition should be allowed to follow its course. However, in this cloud forest where logging is common, and many areas are still looted for orchids, conserving and recovering epiphytes and in particular orchids, is of vital importance. Monetary help from AOS have allowed us to implement a program for the orchid recovery that includes:

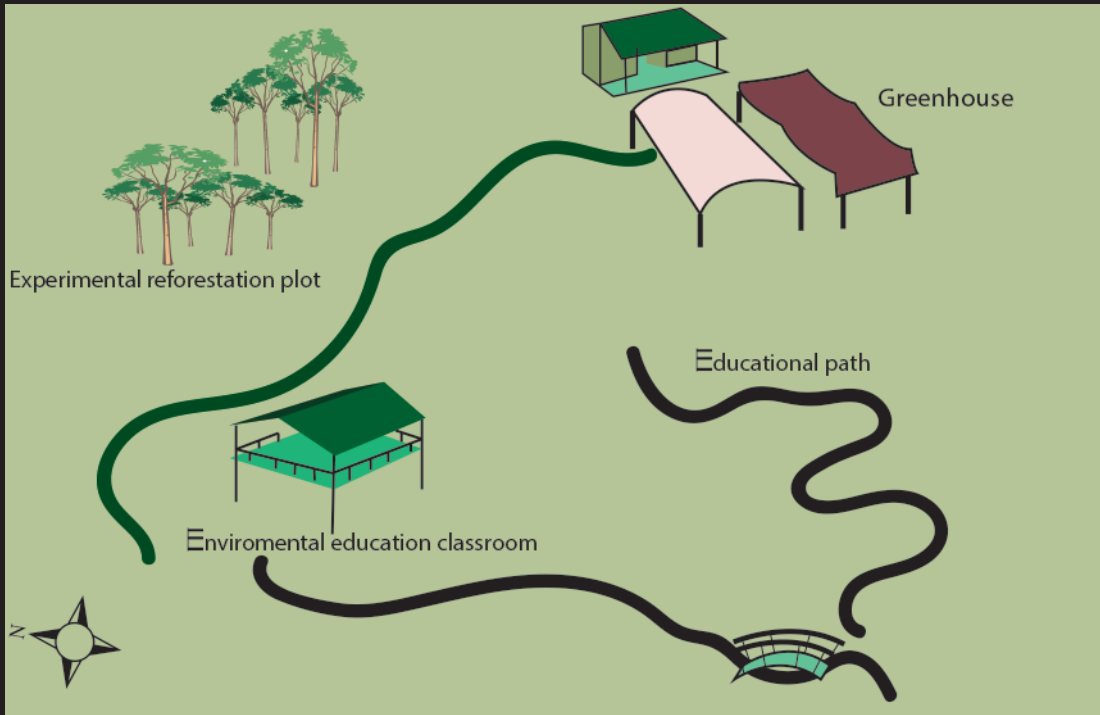
- 1- Rangers walk trails on a regular basis and pick up orchids from fallen branches that are then taken to a nearby nursery where they are monitored.
- 2- Once they flower they are identified, the phenology is recorded from flower to fruit and pictures for identification are taken. Once orchids reach a certain size we take:
 - a- One piece to preserve in the nursery as a germoplasm bank and also for tourist's and native's enjoyment
 - b- One piece is taken back to the cloud forest to a similar space where it was found.
 - c- A third piece is taken to trails where orchids have been looted in the past.

In addition, we are growing bromeliads because they are the main source of food of the Andean Bear, *Tremactos ornatus*, in danger of extinction and that inhabits the Reserva. This nursery has grown thanks to the help of the AOS.



Orchid and Bromeliad's nursery plants found in the area of the Reserva.

Educational path



We are building an educational path that will allow us to communicate the importance of plants and orchids to visitors, especially young people. Through this trail we want tourists and natives to learn about plant evolutionary history, starting with unicellular organisms, bryophytes, vascular plants, plants with seed and finally flowering plants finishing with orchids as an example. This trail will be ready by February 2020



Educational video for kids

We are preparing a short video for children with an optimistic message about conserving the cloud forest, taking care of orchids and falling in love with preserving our natural resources.



The Andean Bear, in danger of extinction and that inhabits La Reserva Orquideas, will be used as a narrator, in a figure of Muppets to reach children.



Muppets are used in other educational videos, made by the same filmmakers of La Reserva Orquideas video

Thanks to the American Orchid
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