

# EXPOSED

Orchid growth in *Pinus radiata* bark



Comparative photo from Orchid growing substrate trial conducted at Lincoln University, New Zealand April, 2012. (Photo unaltered)

## Fresh Bark

## Orchiata™ Aged Bark

There are several issues with **Fresh (un-aged) bark**, of particular concern for newly potted orchids:

Orchiata, **naturally aged bark** provides orchid growers with significant growing benefits:

PATHOGENS NOT KILLED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• some sources of fresh bark contain harmful pathogens</li> <li>• bark is un-aged and pathogens are <b>not killed</b></li> <li>• pathogens can <b>spread easily</b> in fresh bark</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• temperatures exceed 150°F during the aging process</li> <li>• pathogens cannot grow and any present are <b>killed</b></li> <li>• natural colonies of beneficial micro-organisms flourish</li> </ul>	INHIBITS / KILLS PATHOGENS
PATHOGENS = HIGHER RISK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>fewer beneficial microbes</b> to resist growth of pathogens</li> <li>• pathogen growth <b>reduces beneficial microbe population</b></li> <li>• pathogens <b>greatly increase risk of disease</b> in plants</li> <li>• <b>more cost and effort</b> to correct pathogenic growth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Penicillium sp.</b> and <b>Trichoderma sp.</b> are just two of many beneficial microbes, that flourish during the aging process, that <b>prevent pathogen growth</b></li> <li>• Orchiata creates a <b>healthier environment</b> for plants</li> </ul>	BENEFICIAL MICRO-ORGANISMS RESIST PATHOGENS
REPELS WATER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• natural waxes in fresh bark are <b>hydrophobic &amp; repel water</b></li> <li>• fresh bark <b>does not</b> initially hold water &amp; nutrients well</li> <li>• <b>inferior delivery</b> of water &amp; nutrients when first potted</li> <li>• increased watering / nutrient requirement means <b>more cost</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• aging removes waxes from surface of bark chip, allowing Orchiata to <b>hold water &amp; nutrients</b> on outer surface</li> <li>• aged surface provides <b>instant &amp; consistent rewetting</b></li> <li>• excellent delivery of water &amp; nutrients <b>from day one</b></li> </ul>	HOLDS & RELEASES WATER & NUTRIENTS
pH TOO ACIDIC AND POOR CHEMICAL BALANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fresh bark is <b>too acidic</b> for many orchid species</li> <li>• requires <b>additional expense, time and effort</b> to correct pH</li> <li>• plant phytotoxic compounds can <b>suppress plant growth</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orchiata's <b>pH 5.5 - 6.5 is ideal</b> for most orchid varieties</li> <li>• Ideal pH &amp; low EC reduces need for additives or flushing</li> <li>• <b>aging removes</b> growth suppressive compounds</li> </ul>	IDEAL pH AND CHEMICAL BALANCE

### Orchiata – the choice of professional growers

Award winning and professional orchid growers Bob Hamilton, Tom Perlite, Graham Woods and Hadley Cash all use and recommend Orchiata for superior results.

*"Orchiata bark is one of the most significant growing improvements that I've made with orchids in the last 10 years! We all want a potting mix that will produce great roots, yet last as long as possible. Nothing I've tried accomplishes these goals better or longer than Orchiata."*

~ Hadley Cash, Marriott Orchids  
North Carolina

When choosing the best *Pinus radiata* bark for your orchids, wisdom truly does come with age! Orchiata's industry leading quality and proven performance is

**best for consistently superior growth**

# Orchiata™

besgrow™

At the root of healthier plants.  
www.besgrow.com

Acadian Wholesale Supply, GA  
Tel: 770 271 0859  
www.acadianwholesale.com

