The **Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance** in collaboration with **The Orchid Propagator** is proud to announce….

"FIRST-TO-FLOWER"

a friendly competition between members to see who can achieve first flowering of novel orchid seedlings.

Rules

1) It is anticipated that 10-20 members will participate in each FIRST-TO-FLOWER competition. The names of the hybrid parents (or species) will be provided to each participant.

2) In exchange for a $10 entry, each participant will receive one named, novel orchid seedling with the names of the parents used to make the hybrid and a unique plant tag. The plant tag will identify the plant as part of the competition and is required to win the competition. The $10 entry fee may be adjusted in some competition rounds depending on seedling availability, maturity and level of interest. Multiple entries per person are discouraged. Entry will be paid to the Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance. Plants are assigned to each participant and are not transferrable (for the competition).

3) Some plants may flower within 2 years. The FIRST-TO-FLOWER winner is the first to show/document a fully open flower on their seedling to GCOA, along with the unique competition tag. Flower quality is not a consideration in this contest.

4) The winner will be recognized at a members' meeting of GCOA, in the meeting e-mail announcement and on the GCOA website or Facebook page. In addition, the winner will receive a cash award and a FIRST-TO-FLOWER certificate.

5) FIRST-TO-FLOWER competitions will be held 2-3 times per year, pending availability of seedlings and interest from members.

Note: This concept was borrowed from the Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society, who has also partnered with The Orchid Propagator for a similar competition.