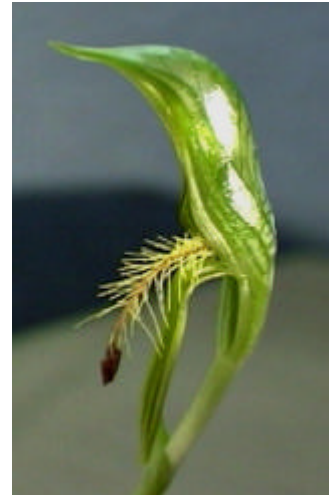


Growing Australian Native Orchids.

Dendrobiums and Sarcochilus in South Australia

Both Dens & Sarcs prefer shade house conditions, plenty of air movement, & protection from excessive heat. Shade cloth of 70% rating is good for Dendrobiums, while Sarcs would prefer Fern conditions of around 80% shade.



Pterostylis plumosa

Growing medium For small plants in up to 100mm pots, a mixture of 5 - 8mm bark, Isolite, & marble chips works very well. For larger plants, the grade of bark can be increased to 10 - 12mm, & very large plants, especially specimens, can use around 25 - 30mm bark.

Watering During winter, the rain should suffice. In summer do not let plants dry out. It may be necessary during hot spells to water every day. Small plants perhaps several times daily.

Fertilizer Most soluble fertilizers will do the job, but with Sarcochilus a low Nitrogen fertilizer is preferable. Once per fortnight is good.

Humidity Natives also appreciate a misting during warmer weather, this raises humidity around the plants. Use some moisture retaining material underneath benches, & water this down regularly.

And remember, too much kindness will kill an orchid faster than too little.