

**Botanical name:**  
**Genus: Vanda**  
**Species: caerulea,**  
**sanderiana**

**Common Name(s):** Vanda

**Latin Family Name:**  
Orchidaceae

**English Family Name:** Orchid

There are about 80 species, and the genus is commonly cultivated for the marketplace

#### **The plant**

**Origin; country or region:** Vanda species are widespread across East Asia, Southeast Asia

**Growth habit:** Vanda can be found hanging from trees or from cracks in cliffs and other rocky locations. As an epiphyte, it is a plant which grows upon other plants but is not parasitic. It obtains its moisture from air.

**Flower description:** The genus is highly prized in horticulture for its showy, fragrant, long-lasting, and intensely colorful flowers. Most show a yellow-brown color with brown markings, but they also appear in white, green, orange, red, and burgundy shades.

**Blooming period/availability:** Vanda species usually bloom every few months and the flowers last for two to three weeks.

**Leaf/Foliage Description:** Some have flat, typically broad, ovoid leaves (strap-leaves), while others have cylindrical (terete), fleshy leaves and are adapted to dry periods.



**Usage:** The genus is highly prized in horticulture for its showy, fragrant, long-lasting, and intensely colorful flowers.

#### **STRENGTHS/OPPORTUNITIES:**

An exotic orchid variety, very unusual...

Used as showy hanging plants, in rock gardens or as cut flowers.

#### **WEAKNESS:**

Not easily available

Price is almost as much as the Phalaenopsis

#### **Care & Handling**

**Longevity:** Flowers last up to several weeks then fall off.

Blooms few times a year.

**Water requirements:** If their situation is warm and sunny, they may need daily watering.

**Light:** Is a crucial factor in blooming most orchid plants.

Orchids prefer low light, warm temperatures, and high humidity.

**Soil/Nutrition requirements:** Mostly grown in slatted-wood baskets, or in pots with a coarse potting medium.

Coco peat & orchid soil work best.

Charcoal and pine wood are newer ways of growing Orchids.

**Special care/remarks:** For Mumbai weather: mist twice a day daily in warm weather, once a day during cloudy weather.