

Maylasian \$20.00 bill showing *N. rafflesiana*. Submitted by Claus Thiede

PEST CONTROL

by Kathleen Rutkiewics, (Connecticut Valley Biol. Supply Co., P.O. Box 326, Southampton, MA 01023)

Just a few cultural notes here to share with fellow CP'ers. Since most pesticides do not mention carnivorous plants on the label, pest problems have to be approached with the "trial, error, good luck and keep your fingers crossed" method.

Fungus gnats in a terrarium are mostly a nuisance, sometimes a problem. They also seem to ignore the fact that they are surrounded by lures and traps for their demise. Left unattended, however, they can turn a terrarium into a crawling mass of tiny larvae and midges. Systemic household insecticide granules consisting of 1% Di-Syston, sprinkled lightly on the surface of the soil or moss will combat these pests for an extended period of time. So far no injurious effects have been noted on *Sarracenia*, *Dionaea*, *Drosera* or *Pinguicula*. Just be careful not to get granules directly on the plants.

Safer's Insecticidal Soap is useful and harmless for an occasional mealybug,

aphid or whitefly but may not be effective for large outbreaks or infestations.

Benomyl is a miracle cure for black rot on Venus Flytrap leaves. An occasional spray (once a month) keeps the black rot from occurring at all. It also stops black rot if it does get started and prevents it from spreading. It is also effective on other occasional gray mold problems and rots.

These three production helpers are all that have ever been necessary for insectivorous plant production in our greenhouses, and have saved a lot of time and fuss associated with regular spraying, equipment, and potentially harmful spray materials.

ICPS Directory Correction

Walter Greenwood, P.O. Box 432, Alburtis, PA 18011.