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African Violet Society of America

AVSA Weekly Growing Tip

May 30, 2016

Greetings!

Welcome to today's Growing Tip email from the [African Violet Society of America](#).

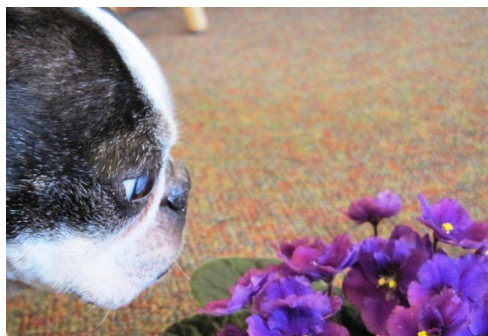
Do African Violets Have a Scent?

No. Not so far...

There is no member of the African violet genus (more correctly called [Saintpaulia](#)) which is scented. It would be good to note here that wild violets found growing in the Northern Hemisphere often do have a pleasant scent. They are members of the Violaceae family and not related to Saintpaulia at all.

The Gesneriad family which includes African violets has [several members which have a fragrance](#). Breeders who are trying to develop scented violets have tried to make hybrid crosses especially using Saintpaulia and scented Streptocarpus (the closest genetic relative) species. The scent of the six "Strep" species is often described as that of "warm honey" but some also have an overtone of creosote. Interesting!

At this point, no successful hybrid cross of Saintpaulia and Streptocarpus has been reported, so the work continues. Genetic engineering might be the next best choice, but how important is it to have a smelly violet?



Violets look good but they don't have a fragrance, except maybe to my dog who likes the smell of damp potting mix.

Do you know someone else who would like to receive the weekly growing tip from the African Violet Society of America? All interested persons are welcome to sign up on the "Join Our Mailing List!" icon below. Subscribers are not required to be members of AVSA.

Have a growing question? Feel free to contact us at the [AVSA Office!](#)

Sincerely,

Joyce Stork
African Violet Society of America, Membership & Promotion

News from

The AVSA Office will be closed this week so that staff may attend the national convention. The office will reopen on June 6 at 9:00 am.

**the
African
Violet
Society
of
America**



Site of the 2016
AVSA Convention

**Crowne
Plaza
Albuquerque**
1901 University Blvd
NE
Albuquerque NM

**Time for the
2016 Convention !!!!
The African Violet Society of America
National Show & Sales**

Public Hours

Friday-June 3, 2016 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday-June 4, 2016 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Those registered for the entire convention have access to the sales and show room on Thursday.

Note: There is a \$5.00 admission charge for the public to see the show and sales area. If non-members join AVSA at the door, this fee is waived. AVSA members (who are not registered with the convention) may show their AVSA membership card (on the front cover wrap of the *African Violet Magazine*) to receive a \$1.00 discount.

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