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African Violet Society of America

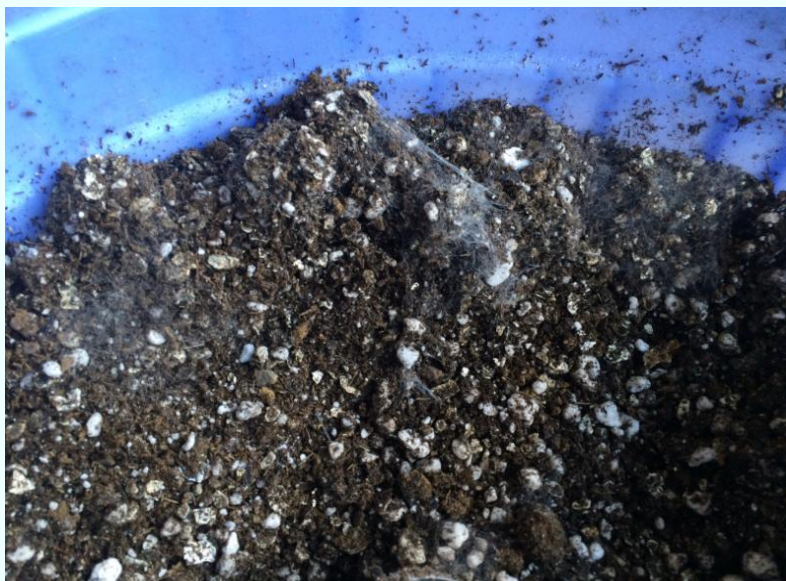
AVSA Weekly Growing Tip

March 14, 2016

Greetings!

Welcome to today's Growing Tip which will help you understand the sometimes scary appearance of white stuff on the top of your potting mix.

Have you ever seen this on your potting mix?



Or This?

White mold-like growth on top of your potting mix may well frighten you, but this is often a good sign that your good soil bacteria is at work -- especially if your violet is otherwise healthy.

Beneficial bacteria in the soil processes nutrients into a usable form for the roots to absorb. When the bacteria is thriving, it may "bloom" on top of the soil as shown.



Photo Credit Cindy Schott

While this beneficial bacteria is good for your plants, it's not very attractive.

Watering into the top of the pot will usually wash it back down into the mix. If that doesn't work, try scraping the top surface of the potting mix and discard the unwanted white stuff.

Here's a [useful article](#) from [AVSA](#) on the Basic Care of African Violets.

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 violet growing problem? [You may always ask for help!](#)

Sincerely,

Joyce Stork
AVSA Membership & Promotion

News from the African Violet Society of America

Preorder Your [Albuquerque](#) T-shirt, DVD, & 2017 AVSA Calendar!

You may once again [pre-order convention T-shirts](#). Quantities are limited so you will need to pre-order them by April 21, 2016. There will be very few extras, if any.

We will also have the [2016 AVSA Albuquerque DVD](#) available for delivery by October 31, 2016. Prices are \$15.00 for US and \$17.50 for International.

[The AVSA 2017 calendar](#) will be available for pick up at convention. The number printed will depend upon the number preordered with convention registrations.

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