## Better Homes and Gardens April 2006 Home front



## Fragrant Orchids

Beautiful to look at and pretty to smell, fragrant orchids-wafting hints of cinnamon, coconut, lemon, vanilla, and chocolate-are natural alternatives to perfumed candles and room sprays. Horticulturist Steven Frowine's recently released book-Fragrant Orchids-profiles 110 varieties and has helpful photographs. To infuse your home with a strong sweet floral scent, select Cattleya maritima, at far left, which is an easy-togrow plant that produces large white to purple flowers. Brassia longissima, foreground, features dramatic spidery flowers and a light sweet candy fragrance. Looking for a dose of chocolate without the calories? Ever-popular Oncidium 'Sharry Baby,' at left, is one of the most widely available fragrant orchids. Frowine recommends setting the plants in a warm, sunny room and watering them weekly-but never leave an orchid standing in water.

HOW TO GET IT: Book, Fragrant Orchids by Steven A. Frowine, Timber Press; 800/327-5680; timberpress.com. Plants, Orchids by Hausermann; 630/543-6855; orchidsbyhausermann.com. Blue glass tile, Crossville ceramics; 931/484-2110; crossvilleinc.com.