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SO, YOU WANT TO STUDY ORCHID POLLINATION: MAXIMIZING OBSERVATIONS AND DATA SETS

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ABSTRACT

Orchid pollination *in situ* is often challenging due to a combination of their growth habit, demography, conservation status, pollen packaging, floral lifespan/cues, etc., compared to other lineages of flowering plants. Here, we review 5 interrelated categories that may limit the investigation of orchid pollinators and their flowers. We offer a series of classical and modern alternatives to better expand small data sets. These tools and protocols are appropriate when applied to species representing at least four of the five subfamilies in the Orchidaceae and their pollinia vectors.