

# Dom Fialki (House of Violets) Moscow by Ken Barbi

AVSA member, Vladimir Kalgin, is the owner of Dom Fialki (House of Violets) in Moscow, Russia. It has a web site at [www.domfialki.ru](http://www.domfialki.ru) worth visiting. Don't forget to get Google to translate the site into English.

Dom Fialki has operated since 2002 as a flower shop devoted entirely to African violets and gesneriads. It is actually an association of African violet growers. It has 12 employees and more than 100 best growers and hybridizers not only from Moscow but also from different regions including the Ukraine who bring their plants to Dom Fialki.



Sales Shelves in Dom Fialki

They have 13 shows a year 11 days long each with more than 600 blooming plants on the shelves. The rest of the month, Dom Fialki operates as a shop selling plants, pots, mixtures, fertilizers, and more. They count the number of visitors during the past 10 years **at more than 1 million**. Vladimir and his wife Tatiana have provided many awards at our Convention Shows for the Best Russian/Ukraine Collection.

But for Vladimir, African violets and Dom Fialki are still a hobby. For 14 years, Vladimir has owned a dairy farm in the Kaluga region near Moscow which is his primary business. There are over 3,000



Vladimir in Sales Area of Dom Fialki giving an award to the Show Winner

cows, two milk processing facilities, storage and logistic facilities and 85 dairy stores in Moscow and the Moscow region. They produce more than 200 different dairy products with about 700 employees from farm to retail store. Only the highest quality milk and dairy products are sold to more than 10,000 customers a day. His products are marketed under the **OK Milk** brand [www.okmilk.ru](http://www.okmilk.ru) (again don't forget to get a Google translation).



OK Milk Farm Operation (from Seed to Cheese!)



Tatiana and Vladimir Kalgin in Baikal, Russia on Lake Baikal