



THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB

Affiliated with the Orchid Club of South Australia Inc. and with The Australian Orchid Council

Patron: Sir Francis Matters

MONTHLY NEWS SHEET

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Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 9th May, 1972 at the Morphett Vale RSL hall at 8 p.m. our speaker will be **Mr Doug Frith (Agchem)** on 'The use, application and safety aspects of pesticides and fungicides'. We will also have a short talk and demonstration by **Mrs Ellie Shaw on Corsage Assembly**. The ladies should be particularly interested in this sector, also we might find some artistic minded gentlemen members interested in trying this art.

We will hold our Winter Show at the RSL hall in July, and we hope to make it even more spectacular than last year.

Our Annual Dinner will probably be held in October, and at the next meeting we would like to get rough numbers of those wishing to attend, so that a tentative booking can be made. If you cannot attend the meeting and wish to participate in our festivities please ring Mr Peter Summers 98 2461.

The next spraymaking class will be held on Saturday, 20th May at Mrs Ellie Shaw's home, The Parade, Seaford. By then, the club should have obtained a supply of the necessary materials and you may purchase these for your own use. You can contact Ellie at 83 3056 if you wish to enquire about this.

I was not present at the April meeting, but understand it was very successful. The judging was carried out by Mr Bernie Hansen, and results were as follows:

OPEN SECTION—Cattleya [Princess Margaret x Joseph Hampton] x Lc Nerthus (Wes Harris) 3 points, Potinara Dane 'Redbreast' (Wes Harris) 2 points, Cattleya Portia 'Coerulea Capri' (Mick Chenoweth) 1 point. Paphiopedilum Triumphans (Wes Harris) 3 points. Miltassia Estrelita (Wes Harris) 3 points, Dendrobium *bigibbum* (Les Poole) 2 pts, Oncidium *crispum grandiflorum* x self (Mick Chenoweth) 1 point.

NOVICE SECTION—Cymbidium Irina Country Acres x Pearl Easter 'McBeans' (Chris Heinrich) 3 points. Cattleya Gattin Lily x Catt. Amabilis (Mr & Mrs Shaw) 3 points.

POPULAR VOTES went to the Orchid Plant Miltassia Estrelita (Wes Harris) and the Anthurium Rubra (same grower).

We hope to have a problem section at our future meetings. More details of this will be given on 9th May. Also any further developments on our Spring Festival at Marion will also be given.

CYMBIDIUM NOTES (Wintering Seedlings) by Rex Thompson

Let us imagine that you have just purchased your first seedlings from a local or interstate nursery. These plants will probably be in 3 inch pots and have a leaf length of about 6 inches. At this time of the year you should buy the largest plants available. If purchased from a local nursery, the plants will probably be fairly well acclimatised, but if from a N.S.W. nursery, then they may need a little extra care during the winter months.

Endeavour to provide the plants from whatever source with overnight protection, preferably in a cool glasshouse with a minimum temperature of 45-50°F. If you do not have a glasshouse, then make sure you keep your plants well away from frosts. Perhaps you can provide a sheltered area with plastic sheet or a few panes of glass.

Make sure the small plants do not dry out, but be careful not to over-water particularly if you cannot provide glasshouse conditions. If in doubt, delay watering for a day. Plants will appreciate all the rain they can get, and do not appear to be harmed by too much rain.

Seedlings will respond to regular fertiliser applications at $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ the strength recommended by the manufacturer. If possible use rain water at all times with young plants, both for watering and for making up fertiliser. Endeavour to keep the plants growing throughout the winter months, by providing plenty of sunlight when available through clear glass or plastic, and when Spring arrives your plants should be in excellent condition for the main growing period ahead.