

THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB GAZETTE



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Next Meeting 10th December 1985

The next cultural meeting will be the last meeting for 1985, it will be held at the Lutheran Church Hall, Windsong Court, Christies Downs on Tuesday 10th December at 8.00 pm. This is to be our Xmas meeting so PLEASE bring that Supper.

This meeting is to be conducted by the members:-

1. Please bring up to 5 of your best 'Orchid Slides'.
2. Brenda Lynch will show slides of her recent trip to Darwin.
3. Please bring a suitable prize for the Xmas raffle, proceeds to go to the Day Care Centre instead of the collections made last year. We suggest "Struck Back Bulbs", Divisions surplus to your needs, bottles of wine etc. In other words please bring along a gift that you yourself would like to win.
4. THERE WILL BE NO TRADING TABLE FOR THIS MEETING.
5. PLEASE RETURN ALL LIBRARY BOOKS FOR THE ANNUAL INVENTORY.

POINTS FOR EXHIBITORS AT MONTHLY MEETINGS.

1. ALL PLANTS TO BE BENCHED BY 7.45
2. This will be the first meeting for the 1986 Show Year.
3. Second Division will be exhibited where Open has been and Open will be where Second Division used to be.

In accordance with the Club's By-Laws the following members have been promoted From Second Division:-

V.J. Rogers; Mr & Mrs R. Goodall; Mr & Mrs A.R. Moffatt;
J. & P. Lewis; W. & M. Vaughan; Mr & Mrs van Leuwaren.

These members please nominate to the Registrar of Judges the Division that they wish to exhibit in for the next year.

From First Division to Open

I. & A. O'Daniel; M & C Strout.

Congratulations to those members.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Remember that there will be No cultural meeting in JANUARY.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Club will be held at the LUTHERAN CHURCH HALL, Windsong Court, CHRISTIES DOWNS on

TUESDAY 11th FEBRUARY, 1986 at 8 pm.

BUSINESS :-

- To receive the Annual Report.
- To receive the Statement of Receipts and Payments.
- To elect Office Bearers for the forthcoming year.

The following positions will be vacant and nominations are called for.
Nominations must be lodged by the close of the December Cultural Meeting.

- PRESIDENT -
- VICE-PRESIDENT - 2 required.
- SECRETARY -
- TREASURER -
- COMMITTEE MEMBERS - 2 required for 2 year term.

Committee Members with a further year to serve are G. Spear, R. Goodall.

Retiring Committee Members are J. Nicholls, A. De Ionno, both of whom can be re-elected.

Will the members who purchased the "odont" seedlings from the Club earlier this year please note that the crossing has now been registered by the hybridizer, R. Dugger, as:-

*Wils Solana Bronze = Odcm Solana X Oda Echanson
So please make a new label and put in the pot.*

Members who have the crossing may if they so desire give their own plant their own cultivar name.

The committee hope that all the plants are growing well and that flowers will soon be seen on the bench.

oooOooo

As you are aware the Club sent together with cut flowers from the Orchids 86 Committee to have a display in the Townsville Show. The Townsville Club saw fit to have the spikes judged and as the result John Nicholl's spike of Cym Sylvania X Sensation was adjudged Champion Cymbidium.

Congratulations John.

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We welcome Alan & Carlien Potter as new members

xxxxXxxxx

My interest in genera of this type was first aroused in 1979 when on a visit to the United Kingdom, I visited the Chelsea Flower Show and also attended some monthly meetings of the Royal Horticultural Society in London. When these plants are arranged in groups, their graceful and colorful flowering style gave the impression that here was a range of genera perhaps neglected by reason of the fact that cymbidiums are brought to our attention much more positively.

On my return to Australia and in the course of a visit to Melbourne, I made contact with Gerald McCraith of the Australian Orchid Foundation and he kindly arranged for me to visit him at Essendon. My culture has been based on his advice, - the experience of an orchidist of many years standing and specialising in this genera. In later times I have had the opportunity of meeting Clive Hall of Mt Beenak Orchids and he has visited my home - given me valuable advice - and commends my cultural conditions. Clive by the way has had wide experience in English nurseries and has also spent some time with a nursery in Holland.

In broad terms, Odontoglossums are native to the tropical rain forest areas of South America and may be found anywhere from say 1,500 feet to 6,000 feet, so we have quite a variation in growing conditions. Their native habitats suggests a moist buoyant atmosphere with shade conditions. The genera which are the subject of this article are:-

| | | |
|---------------|--------------|-------|
| Odontoglossum | abbreviation | Odm |
| Oncidium | | Onc |
| Cochlioda | | Cda |
| Miltonia | | Milt. |

The intergeneric hybrids most likely to be encountered are:-

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| Odontoglossum x Oncidium | = Odontocidium | Abbreviated | Odcdm |
| Odontoglossum x Cochlioda | = Odontioda | | Oda |
| Odontoglossum x Miltonia | = Odontonia | | Odtna |

and the multi generic hybrids:-

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Odontonia x Cochlioda | = Wilsonara | Wils. |
| Odontocidium x Cochlioda | = Vuylestekeara | Vuyl. |

The first intergeneric crossing was made in 1898 with a crossing of Odm crispum x Odm harryanum. Since that time, the crossings have been numerous and there now exists many more genera than those stated above but those cited would be the most common.

Gerald McCraith impressed upon me that the plants are shade loving and that in their natural habitat they are probably engulfed in mist or cloud most of the time and as such they enjoy a buoyant atmosphere with a free movement of moist air and restricted bright sunshine. His glasshouse is lined, has heating, and also an evaporative air conditioner. I therefore constructed a fibre glass-house, 50% shade, colour opal, heating in winter is controlled by a Danfross control unit which regulates a fan type heater within a range of 12C and 15C. Temperature in summer is controlled by a secondhand evaporative cooler connected to mains water, the input regulated by a float valve. The cooler is switched on and off manually. I am aware that there are growers who have plants growing under heavy sarlon only but I make the point the I have a range of genera possibly 10 in number. In summer, I have 50% sarlon cloth 9" above the roof to stop the direct rays of the sun coming into contact with the roof. In short. I grow within a temperature range of say 10C to say 33C. The floor of the house is planted with 'babys tears' and there are 'under the bench' sprinklers. On hot days, I use a hand Regal spray first thing in the morning to mist the plants and incorporate in the rain water a very weak solution of either Maxi-crop, Wuxal or some other folia fertiliser - this is done on the recommendation of Clive Hall and is repeated sometime after mid-day.

The potting media which I use is as recommended by Gerald namely:- 8 parts bark - in my case I use medium grade Sequoia bark - , 2 parts charcoal, 1 part peanut shell, 1 part old sphagnum moss, and 1 part very fine gravel- the 'gravel is obtained from a firm making forms for the building industry. The roots of these genera are fine and as such will not tolerate a strong fertiliser. On the re-

commendation of Clive Hall I use a 'pinch' of hoof and horn to each pot, and fortnightly I fertilise with Fish Emulsion. The pots considered generally as suitable are of the squat type, just large enough to accommodate the plant. Clive has a preference for the more upright type and I must confess that plants potted in this type of pot have developed a much better root growth. I presume that this type of pot may provide a better drainage. There is the possibility that the plants so potted may have a better root growth anyhow irrespective of the type of pot used.

It has been stated that the genera such as Wilsonara and Vuylstekera will be easier to grow, being able to withstand a broader range of temperature. My only comment is this that the plants which I have of these genera certainly are more vigorous in growth habit. About 2 years ago, I obtained three flasks each flask being of a different genera. The Wilsonaras have outstripped the other genera. So perhaps there is merit in this statement.

In conclusion a few comments:-

The plants do not appear to have a regular flowering time, so it is advisable to keep a watchful eye for the appearance of a spike. When it appears, immediately use Baysol against those slugs which can ruin a tender shoot very quickly. When the buds appear, use Disyston 5 granular insecticide to protect against aphids and thrip.

Maintain a good air circulation at all times.

Whilst the plants are shade loving, too much shade will result in no flowers.

Never allow the plants to dry out completely.

Repot when the plants are in active growth - you will observe the new shoot.

Some growers replot every year. I find with Sequoia bark every second year is adequate and remember to put the date on the label.

An ideal degree of humidity is about 50 to 60 per cent.

If starting off obtain some advanced plants - but not seedlings which have already flowered. There are some very good mericlones of awarded plants available.

CATTLEYA CULTURE NOTES for NOVEMBER by Kel Staples.

As temperature increase, growths and roots of cattleyas are making rapid growth, so water and fertilizer are needed in adequate quantities to keep the new growths making up for quality flowers coming Autumn and Winter. However other cattleyas are flowering now and of course some can be found in flower any month of the year. These need some slight rest after flowering, but with Adelaide temperature and usually dry heat, keep the plant at least in a damp state.

One thing to keep in mind is often repotting plants, particularly if large bark pieces are being used, that the plant will dry out almost daily until the bark starts to hold moisture, so water frequently and mist over the plants to prevent as much as possible any leaf shrivel.

If plants are placed on gravel, sand or shellgrit etc., this material can be kept damp which helps to add the necessary extra humidity under the leaves.

Plants that are hung up are of course more susceptible to drying out much more quickly as temperatures climb. Once again don't drown the plants, but under Adelaide plains conditions a reasonable amount of water can be given during summer irrespective of where they are being grown.

As a word of warning, mealy bug will sometimes get into new growths, so watch out for these pests.

OPEN DIVISION

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Aust. Native Epi. | Cym canaliculatum | G Forrest | 3 |
| | Cym. madidum | John Nicholls Orchids | 2 |
| | Sarc. fitzhart | L & R Moore | 1 |
| Cymbidiums | Katie Henry 'Snow Fire' | G & L M Spear | 3 |
| Mini Cyms. | Pat Ann 'Pip Squeak' | John Nicholls Orchids | 3 |
| Cattleyas | C. Irene Holquin 'broen Eyes' | G Forrest | 3 |
| | Lc Chit Chat | K & B Lynch | 2 |
| | L. anceps x Blc Green Hart | L & R Moore | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | Wils. Salgrin | J Leeder | 3 |
| | Asc. Peggy Foo | John Nicholls Orchids | 2 |
| | Epi. Blood Red x Coral King | " | 1 |
| Dendrobiums | Den Gloucester Sands | " | 3 |
| | Den. Halaw Beauty | " | 2 |
| | Den. discolor | L & R Moore | 1 |
| Phalaenopsis | Malibu x Elinor x Shaffer | K Northcote | 3 |
| | Cher Ann x luddemamidna | John Nicholls Orchids | 2 |
| | Ravel | E D & J Pollitt | 1 |
| Novelty Paphs. | Victoria 'Marie' x moquettianum | L & R Moore | 3 |
| | chamberlainianum x hittissimum | Adelaide Orchids | 2 |
| | Goultenianum Coloratum | " | 1 |
| Species Paphs. | haynaldianum | John Nicholls Orchids | 3 |
| | hirsutissimum | G Forrest | 2 |
| | acmadontum | Adelaide Orchids | 1 |
| Species | Catasetum russellianum | John Nicholls Orchids | 2 |
| | Phal. leuddemmania | " | 1 |
| | Onc. sphacelatum | K Northcote | 3 |
| Divison Flower of Month:- Onc sphacelatum K Northcote | | | |

FIRST DIVISION

| | | | |
|---|------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Aust. Native Epi. | Den canaliculatum | L Chambers | 3 |
| | Sarc. Mavis. | " | 2 |
| Cymbidiums | Burgundian 'Chareau' | C C Burfield | 3 |
| | Chris Brook 'Cinminin' | A De Ionno | 2 |
| | Musita 'Elanora' | " | 1 |
| Cattleyas | C. Margaret Digwood | " | 3 |
| Dendrobiums | Gatton Monarch | I J & A M O'Daniel | 3 |
| Miscellaneous | Onc. Adams Tears | " | 3 |
| | Epi. Boundii | Don Biebrick | 2 |
| | Epi-Cat. Nebo | C C Burfield | 1 |
| Novelty Paphs. | Connie | " | 3 |
| | Charles Sladden | " | 2 |
| Species Paphs. | roebelianii | " | 3 |
| | niveum | " | 2 |
| | prinulinum | Ron Parish | 1 |
| Species. | Cym. lowianum | A De Ionno | 3 |
| | Bifrenara harrisoniae | H & B Viney | 2 |
| | Lc. Schilleriana | C C Burfield | 1 |
| DIVISION FLOWER OF MONTH:- Onc. Adams Tears I J & A M O'Daniel | | | |

SECOND DIVISION

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|---|
| Aust. Native Epi. | Cym. canaliculatum | V Y Rodgers | 3 |
| | Cym. suave | W Farquhar | 2 |
| | Rhinethiza divitiflora | J Attenborough | 1 |
| Cymbidiums | South Coast | W & M Vaughan | 3 |
| | " " | " | 2 |
| | Narella 'Jennifer Gail' | Mr & Mrs Harling | 1 |
| Cattleyas | intermedia var Alba | A & G Peters | 3 |
| | Lc Trick or Treat x Slc Sugar Plum | " | 2 |
| | Slc Brandy Wine 'Rapella' | R Goodall | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | Epi King Red | V J Rodgers | 3 |
| | Epi Boundii | " | 2 |
| | Epi King Red | M J Tiggeman | 1 |

MONTHLY COMPETITION

NOVEMBER 1985 (Contd)

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|------------------|---|
| Paphiopedilum | Wendbourne x Sparsholt Firefly | N Washington | 3 |
| | Lyric | M & R Vanderwilk | 2 |
| Novelty Paph. | sukhakulii x glavcophyllum | W Farquhar | 3 |
| Species Paph. | niveum | " | 3 |
| | argus | N Washington | 2 |

Division Flower of Month:- Paph niveum W Farquhar

Registrars Flower of Month:- Onc. sphacelatum K Northcote

MOST SUCCESSFUL EXHIBITORS EACH GENERA - 12 MONTH PERIOD

| <u>GENERA</u> | <u>OPEN DIVISION</u> | <u>1ST DIVISION</u> | <u>2ND DIVISION</u> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Aust. Native Epi. | L & R Moore | Don Biebrick | V J Rodgers |
| Aust. Native Ter. | L & R Moore | No award | No award |
| Cymbidiums. | John Nicholls Orchids | A De Ionno | W & M Vaughan |
| Mini Cyms. | K H Northcote | I ' A O'Daniel | V J Rodgers |
| Intermediate Cyms. | K H Northcote | Don Biebrick | V J Rodgers |
| Cattleyas | L & R Moore | C C Burfield | R Goodall |
| Dendrobiums | John Nicholls Orchids | I ' A O'Daniel | No award |
| Miscellaneous | " | I & A O'Daniel | V J Rodgers |
| Phalaenopsis | " | No award | No award |
| Paphiopedilum | No award | Don Biebrick | R Goodall |
| Novelty Paphs. | Adelaide Orchids | C C Burfield | No award |
| Species Paphs. | John Nicholls Orchids | Ron Parish | No award |
| Species. | " | H & B Viney | V J Rodgers |

Most successful exhibitor each div, } John Nicholls Orchids C C Burfield V J Rodgers

Most successful exhibitor over all divisions:- John Nicholls Orchids.

Where 'No award' is shown this indicates that in that genera no exhibitor achieved the minimum number of points necessary to qualify for a prize.

Monthly Cultural Notes for Australian Epiphytic Orchids By Reg Shooter.

DECEMBER:

New growths growing away strongly this month, keep an eye open for caterpillars which can ruin a whole new years leaves with unsightly perforations is not caught in time. I use Dipel once a fortnight from mid October to mid January, this seems to do the trick. Keep up the watering and fertilizing aiming for a uniformley moist compost rather than a continuously wet one.

JANUARY:

This month can be quite hot, pay attention to this. If it gets excessive give extra cover by applying a further 50% shade cover. Make sure composts do not dry out in pots. Mist mornings and in the evenings if it is still hot. Some species make late growth and could still throw some new leads this month be careful when watering, that water does not lodge in these growths as they will quickly rot.

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Christmas Greetings

AND BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR