

THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB GAZETTE

Registered for posting as a periodical, Category B

PRESIDENT	HON. SECRETARY	HON TREASURER
Mr. K.H.Northcote	Mr H.G.Viney	Mrs K. Lynch
4 Eucla Avenue, Warradale 5046	563 Brighton Rd Brighton South 5048	23 Holder Road Hove 5048
<u>Ph. 2968717</u>	<u>Ph. 2963636</u>	<u>Ph. 2965986</u>

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

ISSUE NO. ¹⁴ 13

JUNE, 1979.

MONTHLY MEETING - CULTURAL SECTION.

Our next monthly Meeting will be held at the Lutheran Church Hall, Windsong Court Christie Downs, on Tuesday, June 12th, 1979, at 8.00 p.m.

PROGRAMME

The Guest Speaker at our next meeting will be Mr. Harry Lambert. The topic he will be discussing is Showbench, Export and Decorative Cymbidiums. Whether you are an experienced grower or a beginner, the evening will be most interesting to all members.

We had a taste of the Cymbidium flowering season at our last meeting, with a terrific display of ten seedlings owned by Ross and Aileen Gowling. Another fine crossing made by Ross, with tall upright spikes and ranging in colours from green through to pinks.

Ross finished his last of three discussions with a wonderful showing of slides of some of cymbidiums. It was a most enjoyable evening and the President, Mr. Keith Northcote, thanked Ross and Aileen on behalf of the members, and presented them with a silver Club spoon each.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Committee meeting will be held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. John Nicholls, 72 Pennys Hill Road, Hackham, at 7.30 p.m., 19th June, 1979

SPRING SHOW

Members will have a chance to use their imaginations with the probable theme for our Spring Show "Orchids Throughout Australia."

Just a gentle reminder to keep on the look-out for foliage plants for use in our show. Whatever your theme may be, you will probably need 'back-drop' plants

If you intend to do a low exhibit with, for example, logs and moss, then small shrubby plants to about 1 metre high would be all that is necessary, but if you are planning to have a high backdrop to isolate your exhibit, tall pines etc. are necessary.

A visit to nurseries telling them what you want, explaining that funny or queer shaped trees are acceptable 'at the right price.' Tall, spindly Aralias or pines, a plant that the centre trunk has been broken out of, anything provided that it is alive and the price is right.

Be on the lookout for fallen Oak Tree leaves, we are usually short of moss, and leaves are a good substitute.

We still require a Show Marshall for this year's Spring Show, so if you think you can spare the time, then speak up. If you think that you may be interested but are not quite sure of the things involved with this position, Mr. Keith Northcote would happily explain anything you may wish to know.

OUT AND ABOUT.

Mr. & Mrs. Alan Robertson have just arrived home after spending three weeks up in Queensland on Mermaid Beach. They arrived home for Mrs. Robertson to celebrate her 70th Birthday on the 29th April. Congratulations

Mr. & Mrs. Laurie Chambers are going to America and Canada for 5 weeks holiday leaving on the 2nd June. Wishing you well on your trip.

Aileen Gowling has celebrated her birthday which was on the 27th April. I wonder if Ross gave her a 'special spike' for her present!!!! Many Happy Returns Aileen.

We hope Merv Strout's splinter is out of his finger, he had his finger opened up to find it but it could not be found.

THIS IS OUR NEW COLUMN! LET'S SHARE A HANDY HINT.

You can mend your Sarlon, or other Shade cloth, by sticking on a patch of the same material with either Gel-Grip or Kwik-Grip. I have found both effective and long-lasting with patches still holding after 3 or 4 years. --- by Keith Northcote.

HAVE YOU GOT A HANDY HINT ???????

Don't forget, if you have an article or anything of interest for our Gazette, please either send it to me or hand it to me at our meetings. Your Editor:- Trish Mills. P.O. Box 103. Willunga. S.A. 5172.

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF PINE BARK.(by Ross Gowling.)ADVANTAGES

Pinebark mixtures are usually well aerated, producing excellent root growth, while at the same time, retain enough water. The bark breaks down slowly and therefore maintains its structure for long periods in a container. It is also lightweight material and compares favourably with peat moss in most regards.

DISADVANTAGES.

Pine bark will fix Nitrogen to some extent. This can be overcome if adequate quantities of slow release fertilizer is used.

The other main disadvantages of Pine bark is uncertainty about the presence or absence of Toxins. Toxins exist in fresh bark and are absent in aged bark. Aging can be achieved by storing the crushed bark in a moist heap for 6 to 8 weeks.

We ourselves, prefer to moisten the bark and treat with powdered blood and bone.

If Nitrogen deficiency shows up in plants, it can be quickly corrected by liquid feeding with Ammonium Nitrate at 2 to 3 kilograms per 1,000 litres water.

ROSS GOWLING'S MIX.

5 x 4 gall. buckets of Treated Pine Bark (Grade 2)

1 x 4 gall. bucket Peat Moss

$\frac{1}{2}$ gallon. Fine gravel

$\frac{1}{2}$ gallon tin of Shellgrit (poultry grade)

cups of Gro-well B.B. Mix (granulated)

PINE BARK

The following item on bark was submitted by Mr. Ross Gowling. The item was prepared by Mr. Kym Lasscock of Lasscock's Garden Nursery, and was presented at the Nurserymen's Association.

Considering bark generally, the chemistry varies from bark to bark, Eucalypt to Radiata. Even if you narrow your scope down to Radiata pine bark, the chemistry varies considerably, depending on the age of the bark. Basically, the PH can vary from 4.5 to 6. As the bark gets older, the PH tends to get higher. This is the PH of the crude bark as it comes off the tree.

Continued.....

PINE BARK Continued.

Considering the other factors, total soluble salts in bark are usually very low and it gives tremendous scope for application of fertilizers. There are no problems at all with the salts in the bark.

With regard to the basic nutrients, I will get back to this in a comparison to peat and soil later, but basically, the Radiata Pine bark available in this State is pretty good stuff.

We sent off a sample to Malkin (Plant Soil Laboratories) and they were amazed that the bark was so full of nutrients, there is nothing like it in America. Basically, what comes out is about 1/10th ideal quantities of Nitrogen and such figures as all the Potassium needed, half the Magnesium, and all the Boron. It is really remarkable material.

However, there are some minerals that are quite low in bark, Phosphorus and Manganese for example, there is virtually none to speak of in it. That is the basic chemistry. Over all then, the PH can vary according to the age, but is fairly easily adjustable and is all on the acid side, which is good.

The salts are low and the basic nutrients supplied by the bark itself is pretty good.

GROWING TIPS - Those with a heated glasshouse must be careful when watering, do not overwater, but at the same time, do not let the plants get too dry, remember it is raining outside, not inside.

For those with a cold glasshouse and who are growing Cattleyas, Dendrobies etc. the plants should be kept on the dryer side and watered preferably early in the day when the weather is fine.

Shadehouse care, well I cannot see the need to water now, unless we have a dry spell and then you can add your favourite fertilizer when you give them a drink.

In all situations, slug and snail baits should be laid. Watch out for mice in the glasshouses, they often like to winter in the warm. The old-fashioned mouse trap made out of galvanised steel that are now available, with a half an almond for bait, are still as good as any, and besides, after the mice have chewed a few buds, it gives you some moronic satisfaction to trap them!!!

Remember we want all your flowers for our Spring Show, so please take care of them.

NEW MEMBERS

The Club wishes to make welcome the following new members:-
 Mr. L.N. Coventry, 33 Creighton Avenue, Morphett Vale. 5162
 Mr. David Smith, 120 Rozelle Avenue, Edwardstown, S.A.
 Mr. F. Krogg, 203 Long Street, Toowoomba, Queensland. 4350

We hope you will get a lot of pleasure and valuable information out of your Membership with our Club.

MONTHLY COMPETITION RESULTS - MAY, 1979.OPEN SECTION Judge for the evening - Mr. Syd Monkhouse.

<u>CYMBIDIUM</u>	Georgeana v. Dusky Rose	R. & A. Gowling	3
	Luana 'Ivory Gem'	R. & A. Gowling	2
	Georgeana v. 'Melody'	R. & A. Gowling	1
<u>MIN. CYM.</u>	Pumilum x Lustrous	R. & A. Gowling	3
<u>CATTLEYA</u>	B.C. Languedoc v. Dulie	Mr. & Mrs. C.C.Gray	3
	C. Boubells x C. Helen P. Dane	" "	2
	C. Portia Monty	Tom Burian Orchids	1
<u>AUST. NATIVE</u>	Den. Biagibun	L. & N. Poole	3
	Malaxis Latifolis	Tom Burian Orchids	2
<u>SPECIES</u>	Doritas Pulcherrima	Tom Burian Orchids	1

The Open Division Flower of the Month was Ross and Aileen Gowling's cymbidium - Georgeana v. 'Dusky Rose'.

Ross exhibited a wonderful display of Cymbidium Orchids, ten different plants in all and considering the time of the year, the quality and variety was excellent. It was interesting to note, that the three place-getters all had the same parent, i.e., Earlyana 'Maytime'. Congratulations Ross and Aileen on your fine exhibit.

1ST DIVISION Judge for the evening - Mr. Peter Speer.

<u>MIN. CYM.</u>	Ayako Tanaka 'Shot Silk'	Mr. & Mrs. D. May	3
	Peter Pan 'Greensleeves' x		
	Matana 'Maxine'	Mr. & Mrs. D. May	2
<u>CATTLEYA</u>	Gaskelliana Alba 'White Heritage'		
	x Bob Betts	Mr. & Mrs. M. Strout	3
	B.C. Laquedoc v. Singapore 'Welcome'	Mr. & Mrs. R. Kiely	2
<u>PAPHIOPEDILUM</u>	Fairieanum	Mr. & Mrs. M. Strout	3
<u>SPECIES</u>	Phal. Equestris 'Rosea'	Mr. & Mrs. J. Nicholls	
<u>MISC. GENERA</u>	Dend. Verninha	Mr. & Mrs. J. Nicholls	
	Compactum x Dend. Schroderianum		
	Bi-color	" " "	

1st Division Flower of the Month was won by Mr. & Mrs. J. Nicholls with Dendrobium Verninha.

COMPETITION RESULTS (Cont.)2ND DIVISION Judge for the evening - Mr. Tom Burian.

<u>CYMBIDIUM</u>	Bethlehem 'Magi'	D. Biebrick	3
<u>CATTLEYA</u>	Bowbest	Mrs. V. Strupis	3
	Languedoc 'Singapore Welcome'	C. Jonsson	2
	Minerua x(Harrisoniaex Bowringiana)	L. & J. Chambers	1
<u>MISC. GENERA</u>	Oncidium Nona	L. & J. Chambers	2
<u>AUST. NATIVES</u>	Dendrobium Mortii	R. & E. Chisholm	3
	Pterostylis Parviflora	T. Jones	2
<u>MINI. CYM.</u>	Morialta Falls	Mrs. Klaveniek	3

The 2nd Division Flower of the Month was won by Mrs. Klaveniek with her plant of Miniature Cymbidium 'Morialta Falls'.

PRESIDENT'S FLOWER OF THE MONTH

Cymbidium - Georgeana v. Dusky Rose owned by R. & A. Gowling.

POPULAR VOTES

Orchid - Oncidium 'Nona' owned by L. & J. Chambers.

Indoor Plant - Maiden Hair Fern owned by R. & A. Gowling.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Mr. Bill Kiely who has been made an Associate Judge at the Orchid Club of South Australia.

VIRUS ADJUDICATORS - Sub Committee

For members information our Club's Virus Adjudicators consist of the following members:-

Ross Gowling, Merv. Strout, and Tom Burian.

If you have any doubts or queries about suspected virus on any of your plants, then don't hesitate to bring your plant along to the Club and ask the adjudicators their opinion.

BACK BULB PROPAGATION(Article written by Mc'Bean's Orchids (Australia) Pty. Ltd.)

All Cymbidium orchid bulbs lose their leaves after two to three years, and are then referred to as back bulbs. These leafless bulbs are removed from the plant at repotting time, by either cutting, or breaking by twisting the connecting rhizome, and remove the back bulb with all of its old dead roots.

Clean the old bulb by removing the dead roots carefully with secateurs, and making sure not to damage the dormant eyes or growth situated near the base of the bulb.

Divide the old leaf axil by halving them and pulling away each side, again being careful not to damage the dormant bud. These back bulbs can be struck or propagated by placing the old bulb in a small plastic bag with a little sphagnum moss and tie the neck securely. Place in a cool shaded spot and new leaf and root growth will quickly appear.

You can put them into a small pot in live sphagnum moss, moist buzzer chips or saw dust. Light watering to keep the mix only moist is required until growth is produced. Do not use fertilizer at this stage of propagation. Again, dormant buds will shoot quickly and when leaf growth is about 6" long and active new roots have appeared, the new propagation can then be removed and repotted into normal Cymbidium potting mix. They will then take a little feeding.

HEAT

The addition of bottom heat approximately 75°F or 25°C will accelerate this process and is beneficial especially in winter. Keep the potted bulbs in a shaded area, as excess light is not needed during the propagation period.

LIGHT

Shaded conditions are best suited for this procedure, as the new growth is generated from the food stored within the bulb. When struck and repotted into normal mix, they will require light.

WATER

Back bulbs, having no leaf or root do not require excess water. Moist conditions only are essential during the initial propagation. Normal watering after repotting into normal mix begins.

Back bulbs may take from 1 to 2 weeks, or several months to strike, this being due to their age of the back bulb. Very old bulbs may not strike at all.

The propagations normally takes 2 to 4 years to flower and will be identical to the plant from which they were removed.

Quotable Quote

If it weren't for the optimist, the pessimist would never know how happy he wasn't !!!!

Floral Art

LIAISON MEMBER TO GENERAL COMMITTEE:-- MRS LOIS HANSEN

INSTRUCTOR:-- MRS. IRIS HUTCHINS.

Next meeting - Tuesday June 5th, 1979.

HOMEWORK - Winter Show Revision.

A demonstration on the Winter Show subjects.

TEXTURE What is Texture.

When we refer to Texture, we are talking about the surface or tissue structure of all materials used in an arrangement. Textures may be smooth, rough, dull, glossy, leathery etc.. As the eye glides quickly over smooth textures but is held by rough textures, texture then, can be used as an element of balance. Rough textures are effective in or near the focal area.

HOW IS IT USED.

This is one of the important ELEMENTS used in Floral Art. It is important because it is often the deciding factor in determining what materials, drapes, (if used) and accessories harmonize and what do not. In design, the texture of each part of an arrangement must be so related that it blends pleasingly with its neighbour; or it may be in strong contrast causing one part to complement the other.

Often strong bold contrasts in texture add interest, e.g., a strong coarse textured container, orchids, driftwood or some suitable dried material used as a background to form the line of the arrangement and to blend the two extremes in texture together, and maybe the addition of some suitable foliage.

As Orchids are equally at home on tweeds or silk, they blend beautifully in rough textured pottery or fine smooth containers.

AT ALL MEETINGS FOR THE PURPOSES OF INSTRUCTION IN BASIC LINES, PRINCIPLES AND GROUND WORK, ANY MATERIAL AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS CONSISTENT WITH THE NEEDS OF THE INSTRUCTOR WILL BE USED. IN CLUB COMPETITION, ONLY ORCHIDS WILL BE USED. MEMBERS WILL BE BRINGING AND DOING.

GROUP MEETS FIRST TUESDAY IN EACH MONTH

7.45 P.M.

LUTHERAN KINDERGARTEN HALL WINDSONG COURT CHRISTIES DOWNS

Affiliated with:--S.A. Judges School for Floral Art Inc.