



THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB GAZETTE

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Affiliated with The Australian Orchid Council & The Orchid Club of S.A. Inc.

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MAY 1994**NEXT MEETING:**

AUTUMN SHOW Tuesday 10th May 1994, Lutheran Church Hall, Windsong Crt, Christie Downs. Benching of plants to be completed 7.45pm. for judging to begin. Meeting commences at 8.00pm.

FEATURE:

Mr Keith Northcote will present the slides of Mr Bronson's Orchid Garden on Moreton Bay, Sth-East Queensland.

SUPPER:

Mrs Gilchrist will be in charge of the tea & coffee.

HALL SET-UP:

Would all helpers please be at the Hall by 7.00pm.

TRADING TABLE:

Bargains will again be available at the Trading Table

DAYTIME CHAPTER:

2pm. Thursday 12th May 1994 at the South Brighton Community Hall, Dover Square Reserve, Broadway, Sth Brighton. Miss Jill Taylor, an O.C.S.A. member & A.O.C. Judge will present a programme on Cattleyas.

COMMITTEE MEETING:

Tuesday 17th May 1994, 7.30pm at the South Brighton Community Hall, South Brighton.

JUDGES MEETING:

7.30pm last Monday
in the Month,
South Brighton
Community Hall.
(April meeting is
on 2nd May due to
Anzac Day.)

This meeting is informal and is aimed at people who are interested in becoming South Coast Judges or recording for Judges at Shows or Meetings. Although Judges for our two big shows were requested from O.C.S.A. Judging panel at their first meeting of the year we did not get the number of Judges we had hoped for so we need to build up a pool of our own Judges and to this end we need **YOUR** support.

DAYTIME CHAPTER

On an absolutely superb Autumn afternoon Day-timers journeyed to Moss and Rosemary Bray's home at Noarlunga Downs. Oh, what a treat it turned out to be. The majority of the 'backyard', which covers two house blocks, is covered in shadecloth over a large collection of, mostly specimen size, cymbidium plants.

Judging from the comments overheard everyone was suitably impressed.

Moss's current pride and joy is a new Phalaenopsis House and from the look of the plants in there they are really enjoying their new environment.

Even the ferns under the 'carport' were beautiful and lush and green and made many of us green, with envy.

Thank you Rosemary and Moss for allowing us to visit your home.

Afternoon Tea concluded a great afternoon.

SUCCESSFUL GROWERS

Are you the most successful Second Division grower? The committee will be looking out for you at the Winter and Spring Shows. More details later.

FUND RAISING

This year we will be having a Christmas Auction. Please keep this in mind.

RAFFLE PLANTS

Raffle plants for April were supplied by Bill Fisher. Thanks Bill.

Raffle plants for May will be supplied by Adelaide Orchids. Thanks Robyn and Stephen.

PRETTY GOOD

From time to time Judges bring in plants for other Judges to admire, or otherwise, at the O.C.S.A. Judges Meetings. In

April a plant of Dendrobium Aussie Angel X Hilda Poxon was bought in by Stephen Monkhouse. Although the plant was quite small it carried 4 beautiful mauve flowers which were about 4" long & 3" across. For a description of the flowers, well, if you can imagine Den. Hilda Poxon, then increase the size, flatten it out considerably, then color it mauve you'd have a fairly good description. The plant was grown in Debco bark in a 4" pot.

The Judges thought it worthy of growing and an indication of what is to come in the breeding of our Australian Native Epiphyte Orchids.

FERTILIZERS FOR ORCHIDS

Extracts from a talk given by Keith Northcote to the Daytime Chapter of the S.C.O.C. March 1994. Bill Clark

There are many fertilizers on the market today that are suitable to use in a wide range of agricultural and horticultural applications. Many of these can be used for growing orchids, some being more suitable than others and some of these more acceptable to individual orchid growers personal preferences.

Before considering fertilizers themselves we should look at what is expected of them and what they are made of.

There are fifteen or sixteen elements needed for plant growth. Three are Carbon (C), Hydrogen (H) and Oxygen (O). These are obtained from water, Carbon Dioxide in the air and Oxygen in the air or growing medium. They are the building blocks in the skeleton of all plants and are the foundation needed before any of the remaining elements can play their parts.

Six of the other twelve elements are called the Major Elements. These are:- Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potassium (K), Calcium (Ca), Magnesium (Mg), and Sulphur (S). The first three of these feature in the N.P.K. ratio used to determine the initial suitability of a fertilizer for a specific purpose. The role of each element is :-

N essential for growth in all growing plants

P essential for photosynthesis- creates all the foods, starches and sugars in plants- helps cell division and growth

K controls the water movement in plants also the chemical reactions resulting in flowering and fruiting

Ca is a component of plant cells. It is important to have Ca to get a correct balance of all elements in the cells.

Mg every molecule of Chlorophyll has a Mg atom at its centre. It is essential for photosynthesis to occur

S essential for proteins- the smell of the cabbage family indicate its presence.

The six minor elements are often called trace elements or micronutrients.

These are :- Iron (Fe), Manganese (Mn), Zinc (Zn), Copper (Cu), Boron (B), and Molybdenum (Mo). They are called micro because of the small amounts necessary (about 100 times less than the major elements)

Fe is essential if plants are to make chlorophyll (green tissue in plants) and use nitrate, a constant supply of Fe is required so that it is available for all new growth - it cannot be transferred from old to new growth.

Mn assists protein formation and photosynthesis

Cu assists chemical reactions

Zn needed for production of plant hormones

B helps to develop new cells at the tips of leaves and roots

Mo helps plants convert nitrate nitrogen into protein and also converts nitrogen from the air for fixing by soil bacteria.

Other necessary elements (some for specific purposes) are :-

Chlorine (Cl) role is a mystery and difficult to determine

Aluminium (Al) helps blueing of hydrangeas by reducing phosphate acidity

Cobalt (Co) assists rhizobium bacteria which in the case of orchids live on the outside of the roots and help the movement of water and nutrients into the plant

Silicon (Si) required by some plants such as rice and sugar cane.

Fertilizers can be organic or inorganic. Some growers may favour one against the other but in actual fact both can be used. It is important however to check their composition (refer to attached table).

Examples of Organic Fertilizers are :-

Blood and Bone - not considered as good as it used to be- contains 4 to 5%N 5%P and little else - no K, Ca or S for example.

Neutrog- derived from poultry breeders - is a fairly complete organic fertilizer. It contains portions of the necessary trace elements and encourages growth of micro organisms.

Dynamic Lifter- similar to but more expensive than Neutrog.

Fish Emulsion & Nitrosol are liquid organic fertilizers. Nitrosol is good and easily applied.

Examples of Inorganic Fertilizers are :-

Gro-plus (Camellia & Azalea food) a granular fertilizer with good N.P.K. balance plus Ca and trace elements,

Aquasol a soluble fertilizer- has high N. content and will therefore correct yellowing of leaves -has trace elements but lacks Ca and Mg. These however are present in Adelaide tap water.

Campbells Yellow a soluble plant food with a good N.P.K. balance plus trace elements including Co - especially formulated for orchids to increase flower production.

Special purpose fertilizers - e.g. high nitrogen to promote leaf growth

high phosphorus to promote root growth in seedlings

Neutricote (green) a slow release fertilizer e.g. at a soil temperature of 10c release time is 800 days whereas at 35c release time is only 125 days. Release is thus dependant on moisture and temperature and release over a six month period can normally be expected from this formulation. Inert coatings on this fertilizer is about 6%.

Fertilizing Program

A suggested program is -

Gro-plus used in the makeup

Analysis of Common Fertilizers

Fertilizer	%N	%P	%K	%Ca	%Mg	%S
Neutrog	3.0	2.0	1.9	7.0	0.65	2.0
Gro-plus	6.0	3.4	5.3	3.6	-	6.3
Aquasol	23.0	4.0	18.0	-	-	-
Cambells Yellow *	11.8	13.2	16.6	-	-	-
Neutricote	13.0	5.7	9.1	6.0	-	-

Fertilizer	%Fe	%Zn	%Mn	%Mo	%B	%Cu	%Max. Biuret
Neutrog	0.2	0.035	0.05	0.0002	0.003	0.006	-
Gro-plus	0.4	0.005	0.01	0.001	0.01	0.005	0.04
Aquasol	0.06	0.05	0.15	0.00013	0.011	0.06	0.4
Campbells Yellow *	0.03	0.01	0.05	0.01	0.006	0.01	-
Neutricote **	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

*Also includes Cobalt (Co) 0.002% ** Inert coating 5.7%

of the make-up of the orchid mix - contains most of the major and minor elements -feeds organisms which grow as the bark composts and hence prevents the organisms from robbing the plant of food.

Neutricote & Neutrog

sprinkled on top of the top.

Aquasol or **Campbells Yellow** use throughout the year as a foliar food and in the pot wherever considered necessary.

For Cattleyas and Phalaenopsis and other hot house plants foliar feeding is used much more than for Cymbidiums. However smaller quantities of Neutricote and Neutrog are required, and in regard to the latter care must be taken to avoid surface caking which can interfere with root development.

Finally in selecting fertilizers consideration should be given to the biuret content. In the production of Urea, which is used in many fertilizers, biuret is formed which at concentrates of more than 0.4% has a detrimental effect on plants. If in a fertilizer composition biuret exceeds this limit -don't use it.

Further Reading: Handreck, K.; Black, N. (1984)-Growing Media for Ornamental Plants and Turf. NSW University Press pp401

**FLOWER FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL
CATTLEYA BACTIA 'FOREVER YOURS' grown by Tony DeIonno.**

Tony's C. Bactia also won Flower of the Month in April 1993 and 1992 I believe.

It is a primary hybrid, being a crossing of the species *C. bowringiana* and *C. guttata*. This hybrid was actually registered with The Royal Horticultural Society which is the International Authority for the Registration of Orchid Hybrids 92 years ago.

**FLOWER OF THE MONTH OPEN DIVISION :C. BACTIA 'Forever Yours' grown by
TONY DeIONNO.**

OPEN DIVISION RESULTS

**Judges: S. Monkhouse
T. Tormet**

Aust. Nat. Epi: Species	Den <i>discolor</i>	B. Wyly	3
	Sarco. <i>hirticalcar</i>	B. Wyly	2
Intermediate Cymbidium	Summer Pearl 'Sonia'	M. Bray	3
	Kurun x Carikhyber x Peter Pan	M. Bray	2
	Hove x Peter Pan	M. Bray	1
Miniature Cymbidium	Mini Splendour 'Hove'	H. Gerber	3
	Valentines Love	K. Northcote	2
	Kauilani 'Tonga'	H. Gerber	1
Standard Cattleya	Blc. Bundy Rum	B. Wyly	3
	Blc. Meditation X C. Princess Bells	T. DeIonno	2
	L. <i>purpurata</i> X C. Olivia	D. Biebrick	1
Cluster Cattleya	C. Portiata 'Mel'	T. DeIonno	3
	C. Browniae 'Riga'	T. DeIonno	2
	C. Browniae 'Riga'	R. Moore	1
Novelty Cattleya	Slc. Jewel Magic	R. Moore	3
	*Bc. Jackson Majewski	D. Biebrick	2
	Please note registered name Blc. Makaha Gold X C. Chocolate Drop	B. Wyly	1
Nov. Cluster Cattleya	C. Bactia 'Forever Yours'	T. DeIonno	3
	C. Rose Drop	R. & B. Anderson	2
	C. Minerva 'Highercombe'	R. Moore	1
Cocktail Cattleya	Lc. Burgundy Gem	R. & B. Anderson	3
	Blc. Golden Delicious 'Pokai'	R. Moore	2
	Lc. Mishimar Star	R. Moore	1
Dendrobium	D'Bush Pansy	H. & T. Tormet	2
Miscellaneous	Hmwsa. June 'Purple Elephant'	R. & B. Anderson	3
	Milt. Belvedere	B. Wyly	2

Phalaenopsis	Puerto Princesa	K. Northcote	3
	Joseph Hampton X <i>fasciata</i>	K. Northcote	2
	Alice Gloria X Hakalua Wonder	K. Northcote	1
Std. Paphiopedilum	Rosy Dawn	R. Moore	3
Odont/Oncidium Alliance	Onc. Nona	H. & T. Tormet	3
	Oda. Florence Stirling X Tantor	R. Moore	2
Species	<i>L. pumila</i>	R. Moore	3
Cattleya & Allied Genera	Otaara Maili's Surprise	B. Wyly	3
	Ctna. Brandi 'O.C.'	B. Wyly	2
	Ctna. Keith Roth X C.Little Irene X	C.Chocolate Drop	
		R. & B.Anderson	1
Vandaceous	V. Woodlawn Glory X Asco. Peggy Foo	R. & B.Anderson	3
	V. J.Van Brero X Chavananand	B. Wyly	2

**FLOWER OF THE MONTH FIRST DIVISION : C. BACTIA 'Forever Yours' grown by
FRANK BELL**

FIRST DIVISION RESULTS

**Judges: K. Northcote
H. Edwards**

Intermediate Cymbidium	Ivy Fung 'Sultan'	W. & M.Vaughan	3
	Valentines Love 'Leanne'	M. Tiggeman	2
Miniature Cymbidium	Sue Aalsmeer 'Sun'	M. & S.Steele	3
Standard Cattleya	Blc. Frances Miles 'Lovely'	C. Amee	3
	Lc. Royal Emperor 'Wade'	C. Amee	2
	Bc. Langudoc 'Sabourin'	F. Bell	1
Nov.Cluster Cattleya	C. Bactia 'Forever Yours'	F. Bell	3
	C. Minerva 'Highercombe'	C. Amee	2
	Lc. Pipsqueak	J. Lewis	1
Novelty Cattleya	C. Pippin	M. & S.Steele	3
Cocktail Cattleya	Blc. Adelaide Silver	R. & B. Wilson	3
	Blc. Adelaide Silver	P. & G. Flavel	2
Nov. Paphiopedilum	Gogjae	R. Parish	3
	Rosette Goliath	R. Parish	2
	<i>venustum</i> X <i>fairianum</i>	R. Parish	1
Odont/Oncidium Alliance	McLna. Pagan Lovesong	J. Lewis	3
	Miltassia Estrelita	C. Amee	2
Species	<i>C. bowringiana</i>	C. Amee	3

Cattleya & Allied Genera Ctna.	Keith Roth	C. Ameer	3
Vandaceous	V. Wirat 'Sapphire'	B. & R. Nurse	3

FLOWER OF THE MONTH SECOND DIVISION : DENDROBIUM *biggibum* grown by COLIN ANDERSON

SECOND DIVISION RESULTS

**Judges: J. Gay
R. Moore**

Intermediate Cymbidium	Peter Pan X Rose Armstrong	N. Gitsham	3
Miniature Cymbidium	<i>ensifolium</i> X Earlyana	G. & W. Shevlin	3
Standard Cattleya	Lc. Amber Glow	A. & V. Thompson	3
	Blc. Toshie Aoki	L. & W. Cook	2
	Bc. Mount Anderson	P. O'Brien	1
Nov. Cattleya	*C. Rose Drop Please note registered name	A. & V. Thompson	3
Nov. Cluster Cattleya	C. Fitz Eugene Dixon	P. O'Brien	3
	*Pot. Rock Ridge Please note registered name	A. & V. Thompson	2
Miscellaneous	Epi. <i>ibaguense</i>	N. Gitsham	3
Odont/Oncidium Alliance	Milt. (Natal X Minas Gerias)	A. & V. Thompson	3
	Milt. Yvonne	P. O'Brien	2
Species	Den. <i>biggibum</i>	C. Anderson	3
Zygopetalum	B.G. Kiwi Choice	A. & V. Thompson	3

ORCHID CLUB AUTUMN SHOW DATES

Gawler	April 30th - May 1st venue :- South Parish Hall, Adelaide Rd, Gawler.
South Coast	May 10th (inc. in Monthly Meeting) venue :- Lutheran Church, Windsong Crt, Christie Downs.
Orchid Club Of SA	May 14th -16th venue :- St. Peters Town Hall.
Mt. Gambier	May 15th (Workshop) venue :- Hunters Orchids, Penola Rd, Mt. Gambier.
Orchidaceous	May 18th (inc. in Monthly Meeting) venue :- Thebarton Reception Centre, South Rd, Thebarton.