

THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB GAZETTE

PRESIDENT

Mr. H. G. Viney
563 Brighton Road,
BRIGHTON 5048
Ph. 296-3636

HON SECRETARY

Mrs. S. Stirling
63 Norrie Avenue,
CLOVELLY PARK 5042
Ph 277-3830

HON TREASURER

Mr. W. L. Moore
12 Kenna Court,
REYNELLA 5161
Ph 381-3713

REGISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PERIODICAL CATEGORY 'B'

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

ISSUE NO 3

APRIL 1982

MONTHLY MEETING

Our next Monthly Meeting will be held at the LUTHERAN CHURCH HALL, Wind-song Court, Christies Beach on TUESDAY APRIL 13 at 8 p m.

PROGRAMME

A 30 minute film entitled 'Mostly Orchids'. The main subjects being Stanhopeas and Paphiopedilums which can be grown cold. This film has been produced by Don May and has a co-ordinated sound track. We are grateful to Don and Joan for making this film available to the Club and members may expect to learn much from the practical experience of these members.

MONTHLY FLORAL COMPETITION

The usual Monthly Floral competition will be conducted. Student Judges on duty will be Evelyn Cuming; John Leeder; and Associate Judge Jim Cuming.

JUDGES:- Harry Lambert; Bernie Hansen; Glen Forrest
TRADING TABLE

Members please assist with Supper by bringing a plate.

NEW PUBLICATIONS IN THE LIBRARY

The Genus Phalaenopsis by Herman R Sweet Ph.D
The Orchid Review March 1982 issue.

CYMBIDIUM NEWS

Looking back through old magazines and reviews one can find very interesting articles, though they may not help us to grow any differently. We will find something relaxing and even exciting by such reading. How many of the 'old time' orchids are still in collections today? A good many for sure. We have heard of growers who insist on up-dating their orchids constantly, but there are 'fors' and 'againsts' this practice. Experience has shown that some orchid parents 'beget' children who inherited their bad faults. i.e. hard to grow, floppy foliage, lack of healthy and strong bulbs, slow to flower, low flower count, poor shape and color. But teaching and greater awareness in building up our 'family' has resulted in the attaining of plant varieties that are proven good bloomers and strong growers.

There is still the need to be selective in our buying and for the amateur and new hobbyist this is far from easy. We are wonderfully well supplied in Australia with catalogues, some in marvellous color, along with descriptive notes extolling the beauty and performance of each plant. We orchid people are generally eager to own and flower beautiful plants and most of us still able to be caught in the spell of our own 'top notch' plant in full bloom. The various shows that are features of South Australia's autumn, winter and spring seasons culminate in general delight to those who make the time to see them. This, perhaps, rather than the books or lists is the real place to see the performance of your desired new plant. To approach the grower of such orchids and inquire if the displayed plant has been easy to grow and flower, or any special requirements as regards fertilizer, light, compost and watering will prepare you for the preparation needed to bring your own plant to a successful flowering. Many of us want to see our plants doing well and come into spike often sooner than we should rightly expect.

The small back-bulb, mericlone, seedling or even small division must be expected to make up into healthy plump green bulbs from new leads before one can reasonably look for flowering spikes. Some old and new cymbidium orchids surprise their owners by throwing a spike on an extremely small bulb. Watch out for these and record their progress as in some instances they may do it yearly while some refuse to flower again for two or more years. Those that do should be the varieties that are retained if they meet the standard required in your own collection.

Just 8 years ago one interstate nurseryman had his first choice 10 cymbidiums listed in an American magazine. Very interesting to see that list now in 1982, with his reasons given in 1974.

1. Balkis 'Compact';-- white, carries up to 14 flowers per spike.
2. Balkis 'Captain Anderson' :- white, also carries up to 14 flowers on upright spike.
3. San Francisco 'The Beat';- polychrome, won many shows since 1968
4. Anita 'Janice';- polychrome, arching spike, probably as successful as 'The Beat'.
5. Burgundian 'Bexley';- pink polychrome, one of the best round shapes
6. Dr. Lloyd Hawkinson 'Piedmont';- green, reserve champion, cut flower 2nd Australian Orchid Conference.

7. San Francisco 'Meadow Mist';- large green - can win champion or export sections if well flowered.
8. Borough 'Green Conference';- probably best green for colored sections.
9. Barcelona 'Magic Wand';- one of my favourites; I have had 21 flowers on a spike.
10. Wallara 'Golden Ball';- } Two yellows which I could not separate
Wallara 'Golden Nugget';- }

There are 3 other plants which have proven themselves over the years. Mary Ann 'Simplicity'; showbench white; Balkis 'Kiwi' white; Joyce Duncan 'SusanHughes' ; one of the best greens I have seen.

These are still with us today with perhaps Balkis 'Kiwi' much lesser known in South Australia.

For those interested in tracing back parentage of cymbidiums two good books currently available are;-

1. Cymbidium Orchids - Names and Parentage by Frank Slattery
2. The Cymbidium List - Volume 1 by Arthur R Koester

What is needed is a comprehensive list of cymbidiums, perhaps over the last 15 years, with color information and a brief description. Most books available do not as a general rule list color of all orchids named.

---ooo000ooo---

QUESTION AND ANSWER 1973 ORCHID REVIEW.

Question:- I had two cymbidiums in flower, one is still as fresh as ever but the other one lasted about ten days. When I looked at the fading flowers, I found that the pollens had all gone. There have not been any bees in the greenhouse are there any other insects which could have removed these pollens?

Answer:- As you surmise, it is the loss of the pollen that has caused the flower to fade and at this time of the year the culprit will almost certainly be a mouse. They will climb a cymbidium spike and steal every pollen in a night; strangely they prefer yellow flowers. Traps or mouse bait of course are the answer. If you use baits place several around the greenhouse. Mice have a very limited feeding area and in a house 20 feet long a mouse colony living at one end would often not venture to baits placed at the other end of the house.

MONTHLY COMPETITION

MARCH MEETING

OPEN DIVISION

Aust. Nat. Epiphyte	Sarcochilus 'Ceciliae'	K Northcote	3
Phalaenopsis	Debbie x Showgirl	W J Nicholls	3
	Grant x Betty Conroy	K Northcote	2
	Malibu x Optimist	K Northcote	1
Species	Phal. hieroglyphica	K Northcote	3
	Phal. lueddemanniana	W J Nicholls	2
	Stauroopsis philippinensis	W J Nicholls	1
Division Flower of Month	Phal. hieroglyphica	K Northcote	

This plant carried a spike which had flowered last year and which at that time showed buds. It was allowed to grow on and it developed a mass of flowers. The point is that for SPECIES allow the spike to become completely dead before cutting same off.

1ST DIVISION

Aust. Nat. Epiphyte	Den. bigibbum	Mr & Mrs Pollitt	3
	Sarcochilus 'Ceciliae'	L & R Moore	2
Mini Cym	Mimnet	L & R Moore	3
	Mimnet	M & C Strout	2
Cattleya	bowringiana x Little Angle	Don & Joan May	3
Miscellaneous	Onc. Kaulanii	M & C Strout	3
Phaelonopsis	Romantic x Redfan	Mr & Mrs Pollitt	3
Paphiopedilum	Maudiae Magnificum	M & C Strout	3
Division Flower of Month	C. bowringiana x Little Angle	Don & Joan May	

2ND DIVISION

Mini Cym	Mimnet	A R Moffatt	3
	Peter Pan 'Greensleeves'	Don Bierbrick	2
Cattleya	Lc. Firebon x Blc. Norman's Bay	Bryan Baker	3
Species	Epi. cruzifix	H & B Viney	3
	Epi. Cat. Nebo	S McKirdy	2
	Epi. King Rea	Don Bierbrick	1
Division Flower of Month	Lc. Firebon x Blc. Norman's Bay	Bryan Baker	

Presidents Flower of Month C. bowringiana x Little Angle Don & Joan May

This plant was growing in a 6" pot with a compost consisting 60% coarse Charcoal; 30% pine bark; 10% peat. Prior to being potted the compost was placed in a sealed plastic bag in a damp condition and allowed to 'mature' for about a week. Watered with rainwater and fertilized in summer only with a high nitrogen fertilizer. The plant carried 7 pseudobulbs and the raceme had 11 fresh flowers. Grown in cold glasshouse.

The plant commentary was given by Max Strout in an entertaining manner much appreciated by the members.

POPULAR VOTE

Indoor Plant	Caladium	John Nicholls
Orchid	C. bowringiana x Little Angle	Joan & Don May

ATTENDANCE AT MARCH MEETING:- Over 90 members and visitors attended and thoroughly enjoyed David Smith's talk on shade cloth and the use. Thank you David.