

The South Coast Orchid Club of SA Inc.
Gazette

**July
2010**



PRESIDENT: Geoff Spear
PATRON: Sydney Monkhouse

AT A GLANCE

HAPPY 45TH BIRTHDAY SCOC

The next meeting of the South Coast Orchid Club will be held at 8pm on Wednesday 7th July 2010 at St. Bernadette's Church Hall, corner of Walsh Avenue and South Road, St. Marys. There will be a Powerpoint presentation on Orchid Houses and Tim Seymour Smith from WA Young & Co will be on hand to talk about his company's products.

Before the main meeting there will be a BBQ Birthday tea. Donation \$2. Hall opens 6.30pm. BBQ starts at 7.00pm. Tables will be set up in hall. Sausages, patties, onions and ice cream for dessert. Please bring a salad to share. BYO alcohol. Cans of soft drink will be on sale. Birthday Cake for supper.

PENCILLERS' GROUP & BEGINNERS' CLASS: Not on this month due to BBQ.

DAYTIME CHAPTER: The next meeting to be held at the Lou Kesting Hall, Dover Square, off Broadway, South Brighton on Thursday, 8th July 2010 at 2pm.
Guest speaker: Lesley Gunn - subject Ecuador.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL GROUP: The next meeting will be held on Sunday 18th July 2010 at 2.00pm in Carrickalinga House, 17-19 Torrens Street, Victor Harbor. Guest Speaker Jane Higgs on her trip to England.

2010 COMMITTEE

Executive Committee

President:	Geoffrey Spear
Senior Vice President:	Donna Meeuwsen
Vice President/Editor:	Rod McRedmond
Treasurer:	Judy McRedmond
Secretary and Show Marshall:	Lucy Spear

Committee Members:

Dorothy Carassai	Daytime Chapter Convenor & Asst. Show Marshall
Pauline and Mark Hockey	Trading Table
Trevor Stutley	
Andrew Lutz	
Marie Bravery	
Bob Whisson	

Public Officer:

Lucy Spear

Website: scocsa.com.au

E-Mail: secretary@scocsa.com.au

People who submit articles to the Club for inclusion in our Gazette express opinions which are not necessarily those of the Club.

No guarantee is provided to anyone using the ideas & opinions expressed in these articles.

**Items must be delivered to the Editor by the second Thursday of each month.
E. & O. E.**

**EDITOR: Rod McRedmond Ph 08 8293 3545
E-mail: abigmac@bigpond.net.au**

PUBLIC LIABILITY

Under insurance guidelines all members and Committee attending any function or meeting held by the Club must sign an attendance book.

CLUB MEETING DATES

July 2010

- 7 Main meeting - Shadehouses
- 8 Daytime Chapter
- 18 Sthn Regional Group

August 2010

- 4 Main meeting – Interstate speaker
Clive Hall of Mt Beenak Orchids
- 12 Daytime Chapter
- 15 Southern Regional Group

September 2010

- 1 Main meeting – Trevor Garard
- 9 Daytime Chapter
- 19 Southern Regional Group

October 2010

- 6 Main Meeting - Graham Zerbe
- 14 Daytime Chapter
- 17 Southern Regional Group

November 2010

- 3 Main Meeting - Jane Higgs
- 11 Daytime Chapter
- 21 Southern Regional Group

December 2010

- 1 Main Meeting -Leslie Gunn at the
Christmas breakup
- 9 Daytime Chapter
- 19 Southern Regional Group

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

Donna Meeuwsen
Box 314
OAKLANDS PARK
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8381 4420

PUBLIC LIABILITY

Under insurance guidelines all members and Committee members attending any function or meeting held by the Club must now sign an attendance book.

LUCKY NAME BADGE

Make sure you wear your name badge. You may win a prize!

BIRTHDAY DRAW

Put your name in the Birthday Book. You may win a prize!

BEGINNERS' GROUP PROGRAMME MAIN MEETING 2010

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPEAKER</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>
August 4 th	Tony Bourne	Paphiopedilums
September 1 st	TBA	Australian Native Epiphytes
October 6 th	Kevin Western	Australian Native Cymbidiums
November 3 rd	TBA	Australian Native Terrestrials

ORCHID CALENDAR FOR 2010

Sunday 25 th July to Saturday 31 st July	Winter Show at Castle Plaza corner South Road and Raglan Street, Edwardstown. Judging on 24 th July.
Sunday 1 st August	Bus Trip/Plant House visit. Moss and Rosemary Bray's, Virginia Nursery at Burton (Lunch) and Noel Oliver
TBA	Main Group Workshop
Friday 13 th August	Southern Group Workshop 10.30am Elsie and Reg Clifford's home
26 th to 29 th August	Southern Regional Group Show, R.S.L. Hall, Coral Street, Victor Harbor.
Sunday 19 th to Saturday 25 th September	Spring Show at Centro Arndale, 470 Torrens Road, Kilkenny. Judging Saturday 18 th September.
Sunday 10 th October	Plant House Visit. Fisher Family, Valley Orchids then Jane and Don Higgs' home at Myponga.

WINTER SHOW JUDGING

Winter Show Judging will take place on Saturday 24th July 2010 at Hamilton School, 815 Marion Road, Mitchell Park. Put in Orchids for judging at 12 noon. Judging commences at 1pm.

This year's Winter Show is to be held at Castle Plaza, 992 South Road, Edwardstown in front of Coles.

Saturday 24th July Put in Show between 5.00 & 6.00 pm . Members may pick up plants at Hamilton School and take them to the Shopping Centre. Prior arrangements will need to be made with Tony Fisher or Geoff Spear if you need them to transport your plants. Only committee members will be allowed inside the Shopping Centre.

TRADING TABLE PLANTS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR CASTLE PLAZA AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES:

5.00pm to 6.00pm Saturday night 24th July
9.45am to 10.45am only on Sunday 25th July

Remember Sunday 25th July will be the best selling day.

Plants will also be accepted during the week. Please members give the trading table your full support. Castle Plaza is a great venue and sales will help your Club and what a great opportunity to attract new members.

WINTER SHOW TIME

Let's make this a spectacular Show. The committee needs members' assistance:

1. We need volunteers to help on trading table
2. Ask Dorothy for swing tickets and selling sheets
3. Your display plants should be presented in show condition with clean pots..
Please do not water plants on the day you put them in the Show. The day before is better.
The committee members will look after your plants' needs whilst they are on display.
4. Trading table plants should be presented in good condition and clean pots. You may bring in Plants not in flower, but please include a photo of bloom.
5. Most importantly, a committee member will ring the owner if for any reason they feel your plants may be starting to show stress.
6. Remember you must be a financial member to show your plants.

SHOWING YOUR ORCHIDS

Members who wish to show plants must be financial. Your number and name of plant must be on appropriate coloured labels: 2nd Division Yellow 1st Division Buff Open Division Green.

SHOW DETAILS FOR MAIN GROUP AND SOUTHERN REGIONAL GROUP

Our Winter Show will be held at the Castle Plaza Shopping Centre, 992 South Road, Edwardstown (on the corner of Raglan Avenue) at the following dates and times:

Sunday 25 th July	11am to 5pm
Monday 26 th to Saturday 31 st July	Shopping Hours

Our Spring Show will be held at Centro Arndale Shopping Centre, 470 Torrens Road, Kilkenny at the following dates and times:

Sunday 19 th September	11am to 5pm
Monday 20 th to Saturday 25 th September	Shopping Hours

Our Winter Show for the **Southern Regional Group** will be held at the RSL Hall, Coral Street, Victor Harbor at the following dates and times:

Thursday 26 th August	12pm to 5pm
Friday 27 th to Saturday 28 th August	10am to 5pm
Sunday 29 th August	10am to 3.30pm

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS FOR JULY

The Committee wishes the following members 'Happy Birthday'
Ian Attenborough, Bruce Kirk, Audrey Biebrick, Brian Lyttle, Tony Fisher, Eva Soar, Joylene Grund, Keith Sutton, Pauline Hockey, Mark Hockey, Michael Tiggeman.

BUS TRIP/PLANT HOUSE VISIT - To be held on Sunday 1st August 2010.**Note: Payment for this event must be made at the July meeting**

Leave Lou Kesting Hall, Dover Square off Broadway. Please leave your car at Western end of Park.

8.45am	Bus must depart at 9.00am
9.30am	Arrive at Moss and Rosemary Bray's (morning tea) Cymbidiums only.
11.00am	Leave
12 Noon	Arrive Virginia Nursery (cafeteria lunch)
1.00pm	Lunch
2.30pm	Leave
3.30pm	Noel Olivers Australian Natives
4.30pm	Leave
5.00pm	Back at South Brighton

Cost: \$25 Please pay treasurer. We must also book in at cafeteria. Please let Judy know so we can make a booking for lunch.

Thank you to Rosemary, Moss and Noel for allowing us to visit your homes.

Please book in early and let Lucy 83814420 know of any member who may wish to be picked up at a different point.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you to all 4 speakers who participated at the June meeting. We must add a workshop to our agenda again next year. Committee members had a lot of positive feedback from members who gained new ideas and information from these talented orchid growers.

What a pity our visit to Café De Willis had to be on a Tuesday. Many of our members have day jobs and had to miss out. 15 members were given a very interesting tour and lots of goodies for morning tea.

The SAROC FAIR was a huge success. Thank you for all the help we received from our members. It was a great effort from all participating Clubs sharing and caring. This is what Clubs are all about.

The Committee is excited to have the opportunity to hold the Winter Show at Castle Plaza, so very close to our main clubrooms. It will give us an opportunity to meet new people who may be interested in joining our Club. Members please give us the support to make this a great show

Lucy and I are off to Stawell on 3rd July for the Country Challenge. I hear planning is going very well and its shaping up to be a great Challenge. I know I will catch up with many of you in Victoria.

Good growing and showing,
Geoff.

DAYTIME CHAPTER REPORT

Members, have you seen our new Web Site? <http://www.scocsa.com.au> It is well worth checking out. You will find wonderful information about your Club, such as the Daytime Chapter. The first meeting was held on the 15th October 1987. Our group will be 15 years young and many of our members have been there since day one. The first convenor was Keith Northcote and the first guest speaker was Syd Monkhouse. This year your meeting will be held on the 14th October.

Your guest speaker this month will be Lesley Gunn who is a very talented speaker and has great information to pass on to you.

Thank you to Kevin Trevan for his informative talk.

Congratulations to the plant of the afternoon grower and anyone on the sicklist please get well soon.
Dorothy.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL GROUP

Your Workshop and Show is just one month away. Watch this space next month for times etc. Geoff and I both feel this is going to be your very best Show. The plants you showed at the Autumn Show were a credit to you. SRG members also helped on the Autumn Show Trading Table and gained valuable knowledge.

Now is the time to do your final check on your show plants and give them that extra T.L.C. Have you any plants to sell on the Trading Table? A great way to find extra money to buy that special plant you may want to buy.

Let Lucy know if there is a special subject you would like to hear about at your Workshop.

Thank you to Trevor for an interesting talk. At your July meeting Jane Higgs will be your guest speaker. Jane has just returned from an overseas holiday and time permitting, she may share a video tape of her holiday and pictures of orchids she saw while touring.

Southern Regional Group June Results List - Second Division

Australian Native Hybrid

1st *Den.* (Vivid x Autumn) x *Den.* Autumn 'Egg Yolk' grown by Eileen Pinnock

Cymbidium <60mm

1st *Cym.* Cuddles 'Josie' grown by Eileen Pinnock

All Cattleya Alliance

1st *L. anceps* var. Chamberlainum grown by R. Clifford & Family

Zygopetalum hybrid

1st *Z. mackayi* x *ZGA.* Clair Fisher 'bounty' grown by Nina Cockington

2nd *Z.* Kiwi Choice 'Eileen' grown by Joan McMahon

3rd *Z.* Artur Elle 'Arael' grown by Reg Clifford & Family

Orchid Genre not listed elsewhere – species

1st *Stenoglottis longifolia* grown by Eileen Pinnock

Flower of the day (below)

Z. mackayi x *ZGA.* Clair Fisher 'bounty' grown by Nina Cockington



Vili's Factory Tour

On 8th June our club was invited to inspect the Vili's factory at Mile End.

I was surprised to note that approximately 300 employees were on the assembly lines making the dough, pies, pasties, doughnuts, quiches and cakes. Mr. Vili's son Simon told us that only top grade ingredients are used and are mostly Australian grown. All the dried fruit comes from Angas Park as this is recognised as the best available and the vegetables come from just north of Adelaide.

I am a dedicated custard tart consumer and I know now why their custard tarts are so superior to others in the Delis. Vili uses pure vanilla essence which gives the custard that extreme flavour. We watched the pies being made and thousands were produced in minutes whilst we watched. After the factory tour we were treated to a delicious morning tea of small pies, pasties, quiches and cakes in their restaurant. Mr. Vili senior gave us an entertaining talk from his migration from Hungary as a 14 year old to his new farm and factory which exports to dozens of countries world wide. Vili's Cornish pasties even won him a silver medal in Cornwall, the home of the Cornish Pasty. All pies and pasties have an impressed "V" on their base to prevent other producers claiming that their product is Vili's.

We were impressed with the spotless factory with rows of stainless steel ovens and immaculate assembly lines.

We could not leave without buying a supply of apple buns and custard tarts. We thank our committee for arranging a very interesting outing for us.

Ralph Lucas

S.A.R.O.C. FAIR

Thank you to the 13 members who brought in plants in mixed genera to make our display so successful.

Grand Champion of Show was awarded to members Ron and Irene Parish for their Zelenkoa onusta 'Rob"HCC AOC Orchid. Congratulations Ron and Irene.

The displays definitely get better every year. Congratulations to Gawler Districts Orchid Club for their success in winning the Champion Display Award.

The BBQ was ably run for SAROC by our club-members Dorothy Carassai, Henk Van Leuveren and Judy and Rod McRedmond



FROM OUR AFFILIATED CLUBS

Orchid Club of S.A. Inc.

Meets in the Enfield Community Centre, 540 Regency Road, Enfield.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1 st July	Tony Bourne	Paphiopedilum
Daytime Group meets at the above venue at 2pm		
9 th July	Ian Kilpatrick	Western Australian Natives

Diary Dates for the 2010 Season

9 th -11 th July	Winter Show – Enfield Community Centre
3 rd – 11 th September	Spring Show – Adelaide Showground
30 th October	Socialising with "Sarcs" Enfield Community Centre

Murray Bridge and District Orchid Club Inc.

Meetings to be held at 1.45pm in Johnston Park combined Club Hall, Adelaide Road, Murray Bridge.

Main Meeting June Results List

Open Division

Australian Native Epiphyte Hybrid

169 Den. Hilda Poxon 'Ern' Bev & John Gay (65) 3

Australian Native Epiphyte Species

168 Den. bigibbum Peter & Geraldine Flavel (487) 3

Cymbidium < 60mm (all colours)

172 Cym. Mini Mint 'Beverley' Bev & John Gay (65) 3

Dendrobium (not Aust Native) Hybrid

170 Den. Unknown Gerald Voskamp (1650) 3

171 Den. Me Sang Nil Gerald Voskamp (1650) 2

Laeliinae Non Standard Other

200 Lc. Interceps Gerald Voskamp (1650) 2

Laeliinae Species

195 C. percivaliana 'Summit' Richard & Beryl Wilson (321) 3

196 Psh. (Enc.) cochleata 'Rita' Kevin Trevan (295) 2

197 C. maxima Richard & Beryl Wilson (321) 1

Laeliinae Standard > 100mm

198 C.(Lc) Gakuben Walker 'R & B' Richard & Beryl Wilson (321) 3

201 Rlc.(Blc) California Girl 'Orchid Library' Richard & Beryl Wilson (321) 2

199 Rlc. (Blc)[Campobella x (Living Gift x Butter Cup)] Richard & Beryl Wilson (321) 1

Orchid Genera not listed elsewhere - Hybrid

212 Ctsm. Marge Soule Gerald Voskamp (1650) 3

Paphiopedilum Novelty

207 Paph. Charlie's Girl Tony Bourne (1415) 3

208 Paph. Leyburnense Tony Bourne (1415) 2

Paphiopedilum Species

205 Paph, spicerianum Tony Bourne (1415) 3

206 Paph, charlesworthii Tony Bourne (1415) 2

Zygopetalum Hybrid (inc. intergenerics)

209 Zga. Kuitpo 'Playfare' Kevin Trevan (295) 3

210 Zga. Kuitpo 'Pt Pirie' Kevin Trevan (295) 2

211 Z. (Gary) Baker x Red Vale) Kevin Trevan (295) 1



Main Meeting June Results List (cont.)

Ref. No.

Points Awarded

First Division

Australian Native Epiphyte Hybrid

174	Den. Coffs Bonza	David & Kay Cammack (1535)	3
175	Den. Hilda Poxon	David & Kay Cammack (1535)	2
176	Den. Ellen 'South Coast'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	1

Australian Native Epiphyte Species

173	Den. lichenostrum	David & Kay Cammack (1535)	3
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Cymbidium < 60mm (all colours)

177	Cym. Red Flame	Eileen Pinnock (519)	3
178	Cym. Morialta 'Morialta Falls'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	2
179	Cym. Night Flight 'Ruby'	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	1

Cymbidium 60 - 90 mm (all colours)

180	Cym. Night Flight 'Touch of Velvet'	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	3
181	Cym. Pink Cadillac 'Elvis'	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	2
182	Cym. Inheritance Day 'Pauline'	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	1

Laeliinae Non Standard Cluster

189	Slc. Golden Wax 'J. F'	Eileen Pinnock (519)	3
190	Lc. Angel Heart 'Hihimanu'	Heather Engelhardt (263)	2
191	C. Browniae 'Riga'	Malcolm Young (754)	1

Laeliinae Non Standard Other

192	Bc. Binosa 'Keyline'	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	3
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Laeliinae Species

183	L. anceps 'Chamberlains'	Ian & Denise Attenborough (450)	3
184	L. anceps 'Chamberlains'	Rito & Rosetta Silvestri (302)	2

Laeliinae Standard < 100mm

185	Lc. Momilani Rainbow 'Gypsy'	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	3
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Laeliinae Standard > 100mm

186	Lc. Ovation 'Richard'	Eileen Pinnock (519)	3
187	C. Portiata	Malcolm Young (754)	2
188	Blc. California Girl 'Orchid Library'	Ian & Denise Attenborough (450)	1

Oncidiinae Hybrid (Any other Oncidiinae)

193	Miltassia Estrelita	Rito & Rosetta Silvestri (302)	3
194	Milt. Tahoma Glacier Ithan	Rito & Rosetta Silvestri (302)	2

Orchid Crossing (Hybrid or Species - Pollen Parent)

216	Cym. Pink Cadillac 'Elvis'	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	3
217	Cym. (Sunbreeze x Caribbean)	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	2

Orchid Seedling any genera

213	Cym. Pink Cadillac 'Elvis'	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	3
214	Cym. (Sunbeam x Caribbean)	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	2
215	Cym. Pink Cadillac	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	1

Zygopetalum Hybrid (inc. intergenerics)

202	Z. Titanic 'Monarch'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	3
203	Z. Titanic x Zba. Beenak Jester	Pauline & Mark Hockey (1556)	2
204	Z. Gary Baker 'Elfin Jade'	Rod & Judy McRedmond (1141)	1

Second Division

Laeliinae Standard > 100mm

166	Blc. George King 'Serendipity'	Peter Haltis (442)	3
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Zygopetalum Species

167	Z. makayi	Vicky Cooper (1119)	3
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July Judges Roster:

Panel 1: John Gay, Wendy Lodge and Colin Campbell
Pencillor: Geraldine Flavel.

Panel 2: Noel Oliver, Graham Zerbe
Pencillor: Peter Flavel.

Plant Commentary

Flower of First Division and Flower of the night:

***Mtssa Estrelita* benched by Rito and Rosetta Silvestri.** A large well grown plant bearing some 21 inflorescences with up to six very attractive spider-like flowers. Sepals and petals were lavender in colour with a fine cream edging and darker purple spotting the half nearest to the base. The large showy labellum was cream with fine pinkish-purple spotting with larger spots nearer the midline and heavier towards the base.



Flower of Open Division:

***Den. Hilda Poxon 'Ern'* grown by Bev and John Gay.** Another large plant with many canes, many of which carried 1 or 2 inflorescences in various stages of bud to canes with all fully open flowers resulting in a showy massed display of flowers. Flowers were up to 90mm from top to bottom and 40 – 50mm wide. Sepals and petals were butter yellow with those just out having a greenish tinge. Labellums were creamish-yellow with fine deep red spotting and a small solid deep red patch at the base.



Flower of Second Division:

***Z. mackayii* grown by Vicky Cooper.** A large plant with 7 inflorescences; four with all their 6 flowers open, one with 5 open flowers and one more to open, one with 5 flowers, all open and one with all 3 flowers open. The 75mm – 80mm wide and tall flowers had narrow deep green sepals and petals with heavy reddish-brown spotting and barring. The labellum was cream with purple linear spotting from the outer edge towards the base which became more prominent towards the labellum centre.



CALCIUM NITRATE

Thank you to Townsville Orchid Society for allowing us to print this article

Introduction

"Although it is common practice to call them Orchid food, fertilizers are not really food for our Orchids. Using water, carbon dioxide and energy from the sun, Orchids actually make their own food. So fertilizers can best be called Orchid nutrients. Plant nutritionists have identified (17) elements essential to Orchid growth. Because Orchids require them in larger quantities for maximum growth, Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K) are referred to as macro nutrients. The other elements needed in smaller quantities, such as Calcium (Ca), Iron (Fe), Copper (Cu), and Zinc (Z), are referred to as micro nutrients or trace elements." (Fertilizer Musings by Jerry Sellers)

Calcium nitrate, as its name implies, is a fertilizer source that supplies Calcium (in the form of the calcium ion Ca^{2+}) nitrogen (in the form of the nitrate ion NO_3^-), to your orchids. It is readily available for plants to uptake and use. It comes as a white solid that easily dissolves in water.

Nitrogen

"Nitrogen is an essential plant nutrient. It is a key component in plant proteins and chlorophyll." (Nitrogen Sources Tom Dorn, Extension Educator)

"Nitrogen is necessary for the plant to grow. But excess nitrogen will cause plants to grow excessively in size and may delay flowering (think of those Vandas!) On the other hand nitrogen deficiency will result in stunted plants."

A recent study by Dr. Yin-Tung Wand of Texas A & M University suggests that "under severe nitrogen deficiency, the proteins in the lower leaves are digested and the nitrogen is transferred out of the older leaves into the younger upper leaves (note: of Phalaenopsis). As a result some of the lower leaves start turning yellow and eventually fall off." (Venamy Orchids, 1460 Route 22, Brewster, New York)

"The air we breathe is about 78% nitrogen in the form of N_2 - gas and about 21% oxygen in the form of O_2 gas. The remaining one percent of the atmosphere is a combination of all the other gases, including carbon dioxide that is the source of carbon used by green plants. Even though there are 33,000 tons of nitrogen in the air over every acre, the nitrogen gas is so chemically stable, plants cannot directly use it as a nutrient.

Plants readily take up and use two forms of soil nitrogen, ammonium (NH_4^+) and nitrate (NO_3^-). Other forms of nitrogen must be converted to one of these compounds by natural or artificial means before plants can utilize them directly as a source of nitrogen for plant growth."

"The urea form of nitrogen cannot be utilized directly by plants. It must first be converted to the ammonium form by chemical processes which, in turn, may be used by the plant or converted to the nitrate form by microbiological processes." (Nitrogen Sources, Tom Dorn, Extension Educator)

"It can take up to a year to break down Urea. By that time, the Urea is well out of your potting media, and totally unavailable to your Orchids. (Fertilizer Musings, by Jerry Sellers)

Cont...

Calcium

"Calcium activates enzymes, is a structural component of cell walls, influences water movement in cells and is necessary for cell growth and division. Some plants must have calcium to take up nitrogen and other minerals. Calcium is easily leached. Calcium, once deposited in plant tissue, is immobile (non-translocatable) so there must be a constant supply for growth. Deficiency causes stunting of new growth in stems, flowers and roots. Symptoms range from distorted new growth to black spots on leaves and fruit. Yellow leaf margins may also appear." (Written by Dorothy Morgan. Staff Horticulturalist employed by Dyna-Gro Corporation)

It is worth noting that many water supplies do in fact contain a fair concentration of calcium. Growers who are concerned about the amount of calcium in their water could have their water professionally tested – but then your orchids will eventually tell you if you are giving them too much.

Using Calcium Nitrate

Orchid growers have reported using it week-about with their normal fertilizer, while others have reported using it once a month as part of their fertilizing program, yet still others use it every second watering.

Once a fortnight seems to be a safe way to start. The amount to use varies from 0.5g/L to 1.5g/L depending on who you talk to, so a good middle ground starting point would seem to be 1g/L. Jerry Sellers writes that, "for periodic feedings, 150 to 200 parts per million (PPM) of N is excellent".

It must be stressed that because most calcium compounds are insoluble, it is important to **use calcium nitrate by itself** otherwise many ions will simply react with the calcium ions and precipitate out and be useless to your orchids.

As solid calcium nitrate absorbs moisture from the air very readily it must be **stored in an air tight container**.

WARNING : POISONOUS COCOA MULCH - DEADLY TO DOGS

There is a new product on the market, a type of garden mulch called "Cocoa Bean Mulch" or "Cocoa Shell Mulch."

It is not expensive and apparently has a chocolate smell about it.

Apparently dogs are attracted by the smell of the chocolate and it could be fatal for dogs who may eat it.

This is not the same product as the Coconut fibre that some of us are using as a replacement for pine bark.

The following quote comes from the RSPA website

All parts of the cocoa bean contain "theobromine", a methylxanthine compound that has similar properties to caffeine and is toxic to dogs and other pets at certain doses. It is this chemical that is the cause of chocolate poisoning, a problem that occurs mainly in pet dogs but also occurs occasionally in pet cats or other pet animals.

The level of theobromine varies with the type of chocolate; baking chocolate and dark chocolate contain the most theobromine. Cocoa bean shells may contain relatively high levels of theobromine, and some reports suggest that, for a medium-sized dog, consuming about 250 grams of mulch could be fatal.

Current Sponsors for our Club

We wish to thank the following persons who have supported us and our shows with donations etc. Members are requested to keep these people in mind when purchasing orchids and supplies.

Centro Management

Coast FM

Cobb & Co.

Colonial (Castle Plaza Shopping Centre)

Geoff & Lucy Spear

Heather Englehardt

Helmut Hermann

John & Bev Gay

Moss & Rosemary Bray (Sims Orchids)

Munns Garden Centre Glandore

Noel Oliver

Okal (Bollard Manufacturers)

Pauline & Mark Hockey

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Tom Burian

Tony & Lynn Fisher

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Kevin & Helen Western. Ph/Fax 08 8270 4599
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AFFILIATED CLUBS

Murray Bridge and District Orchid Club Inc.
Orchid Club of South Australia

**If unclaimed please return to
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